ANIMA™

10

Natsumi Mukai

TOKYOPOP®

ANIMA

Volume 10

by Natsumi Mukai

TOKYOPOP®

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迎夏生
NATSUMI MUKAI

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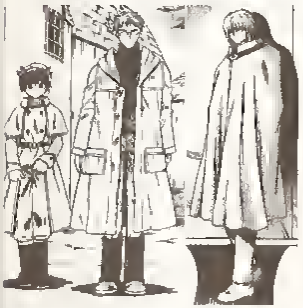
In Astsria, the tour arrivo in the pioue town of Fantale. The people there believe in the words of an angol that appeare on toggy mornings, and give him offorings. Cooro, realizing that Cyranova le merely a ewan +Anima with white winge, and that there are suspicious men with their eyo on him, tells Cyranova that he should get out of town.

Because he feele he's finelly found s placa to belong by pretending to be sn angel, Cyranova tries to chaee Cooro out of town by telling the townspeople that he is a "meeeengor of death." But when he's attacked by the suspicious man, Cooro and tho othere save him, and Cyranove starts to look tor a wsy to live without lying about who he le.

After that, Cooro and Senri decide to take pert in a +Anima organizad by Aotaria. At the race, Cooro ie reunited with Lyra, who grew up with him at the church long ago. Lyra, who had been reborn as e swellow +Anima, ignoree Cooro, and takes the lead in the beginning ot the rece. When ehe'e injured in an accident, however, she loses the anime that Fly implanted in her at the National Research Facility. Meenwhile, Fly and Marca have euddenly appeared at the racing grounds. Fly, who ecte like he knows Cooro, suggests that Cooro stop by Kliter, the town with tha church where he grew up, but...



フライ [Fly]

A researches studying +Anima at the Astarian National Research Facility. He eeame to have met Cooro sometime in the past.

マルカ [Marca]

A novice researcher who works at the Astarian National Research Facility as Fly's assistant. She loves +Anima bat le a little scatterbrained

イグナス[Igneous]

As Astarian soldier, Ite and Fly have been friends since childhood. He hates +Anima because his grand-father was killed by one long ago.

ブランカ [Blanca]

???

All the mysteries will be revealed at last!

ナナ [Nana]

Bat +Anima. Sha can fly and haa an ultraaanic screech. She loves pretty clothes and le scared af forests at night.

STORY & CHARACTERS

クーロ[Cooro]

Crow +Anima. He spreads his pitch-black wings and soare to the sky. He's alwsys on the lookout for something to eat.

ハスキー[Hueky]

Fish +Anima. He can swim freely through water like a merman. He's a little stubborn, and doesn't like girls.

センリ[Senri]

Bear +Anima. His sharp-clswed arm le amazingly strong. He doesn't talk very much.

In thie world, there are thoee known as +Anima: humsns who have within them the powers ot animele. Cooro, a crow +Anime, meets Hueky, a fish +Anime, who was putting on a mermaid princess sideshow, and takes him away trom the circue.

Cooro and Hueky travel together and are joined by Senri, a bear +Anime who was hired to protect veins ot gold ore in the villege ot Abon, and Nana, a bat +Anima they met during the "pearl thief" incident in the underground ruins beneath the metropolle of Octopus. And so, the four children's adventures begin.

With many stope on their way, they meet varioue people and strengthen their own bonds of friendship. After going to Senri'e homeland, Mose Mountain, Cooro and the others head to Ssiland, Hueky's birthplace, beceuee he wished to be reunited with his mother, from whom he had beon saparsted.

Becsuse +Anima are treated ae elaves in Sailand, Cooro snd the othere tece many dangere including an attack from slave hunters, but they are able to maet Husky's mother, Marsin, nevertheless. Having accomplished his goal, Husky decides to leave Ssiland. He boards a boat with Cooro and the others, and heade once again to Astarin.

Chapter 51
The White Shadow

CONTENTS

Chapter 51
The White Shadow 9

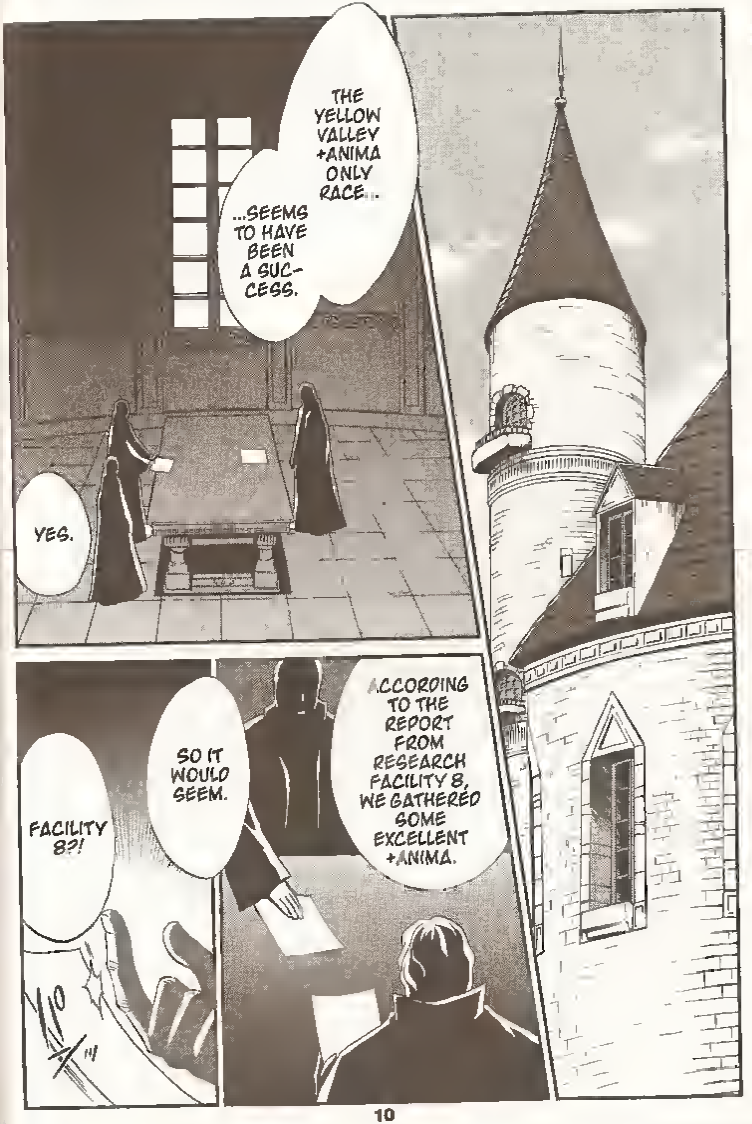
Chapter 52
Opening Pandora's Box 41

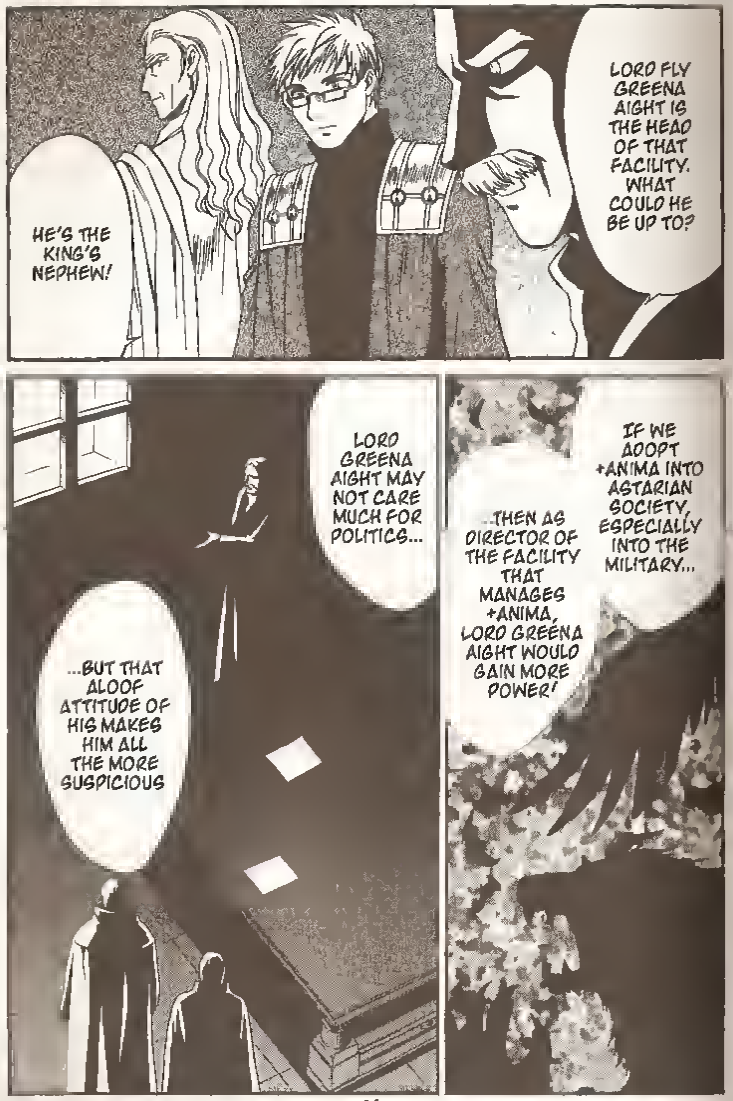
Chapter 53
My Anima 73

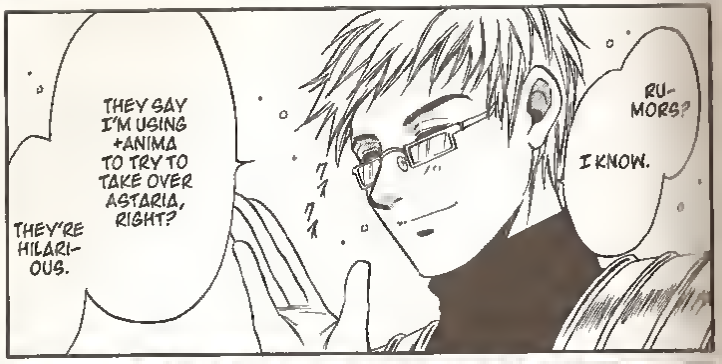
Chapter 54
Crystal 105

Chapter 55
Goodbye 137

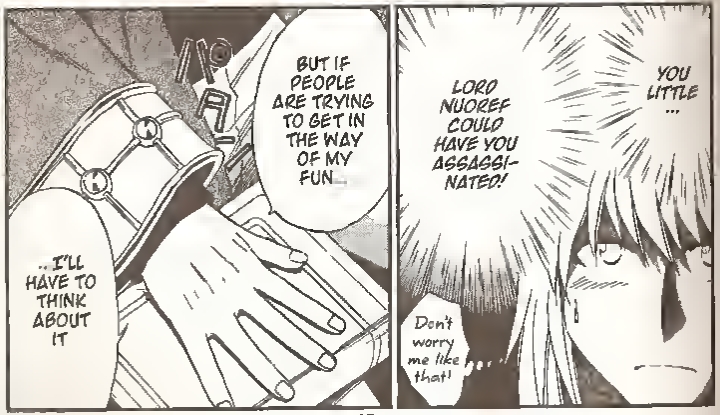
Chapter 56
Hill of Fluttering Wings 169

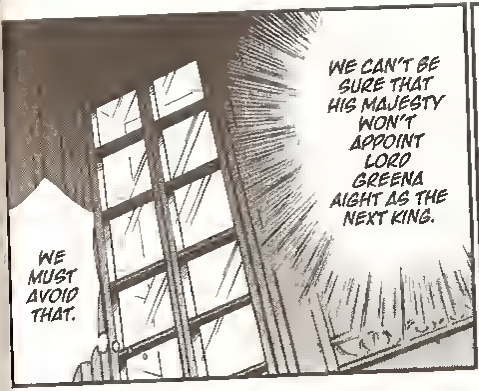

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT FROM RESEARCH FACILITY 8, WE GATHERED SOME EXCELLENT +ANIMA.
SO IT WOULD SEEM.
FACILITY 8?!
YES.
...SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A SUCCESS.
THE YELLOW VALLEY +ANIMA ONLY RACE...


IF WE ADOPT +ANIMA INTO ASTARIAN SOCIETY, ESPECIALLY INTO THE MILITARY...
...THEN AS DIRECTOR OF THE FACILITY THAT MANAGES +ANIMA, LORD GREENA AIGHT WOULD GAIN MORE POWER!
LORD GREENA AIGHT MAY NOT CARE MUCH FOR POLITICS...
...BUT THAT ALOOF ATTITUDE OF HIS MAKES HIM ALL THE MORE SUSPICIOUS
HE'S THE KING'S NEPHEW!
LORD FLY GREENA AIGHT IS THE HEAD OF THAT FACILITY. WHAT COULD HE BE UP TO?


RU-MORS?
I KNOW.
THEY SAY I'M USING +ANIMA TO TRY TO TAKE OVER ASTARIA, RIGHT?
THEY'RE HILARI-OUS.

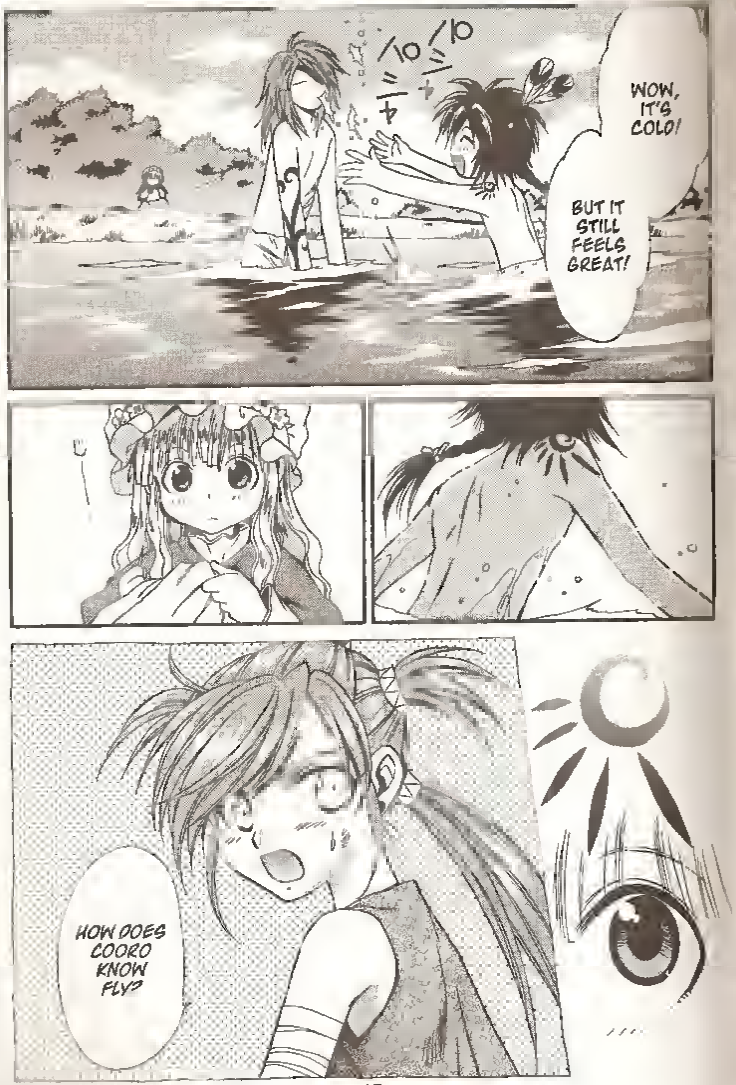
IDIOT!
THAT ATTITUDE OF YOURS MAKES PEOPLE SUSPECT YOU EVEN MORE!
HEY, HEY.
IT'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO GET SO WORKED UP ABOUT, IGGY.


BUT IF PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO GET IN THE WAY OF MY FUN...
..I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT
YOU LITTLE...
LORD NUORET COULD HAVE YOU ASSASSI-NATED!
Don't worry me like that!

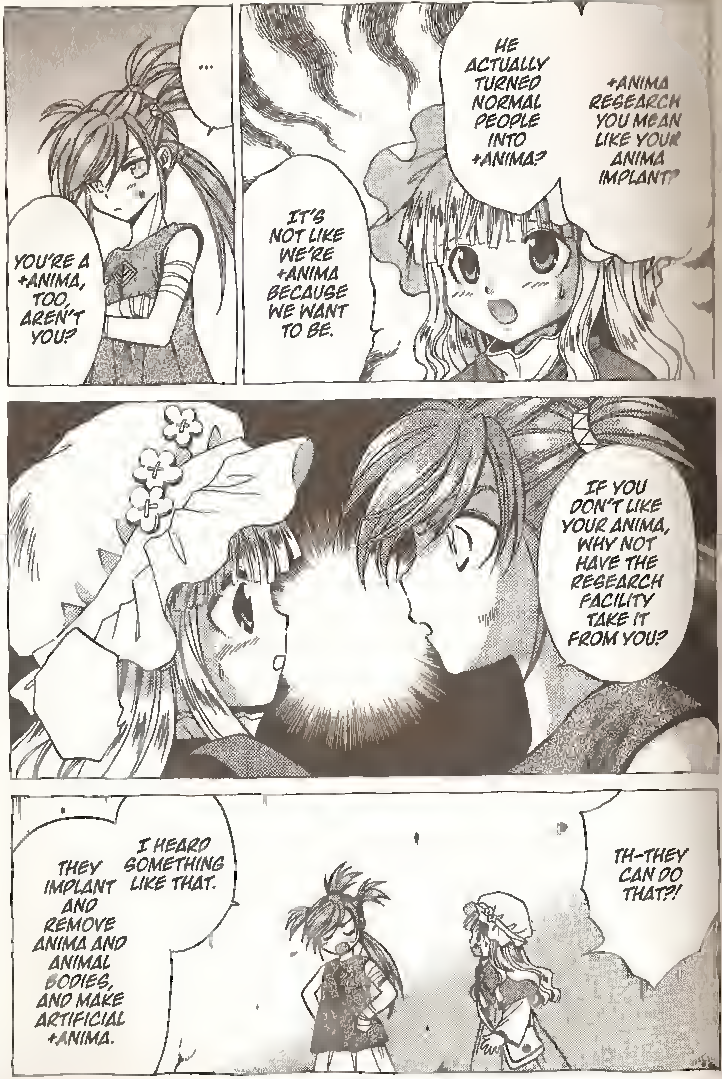

WE CAN'T BE SURE THAT HIS MAJESTY WON'T APPOINT LORD GREENA AIGHT AS THE NEXT KING.
WE MUST AVOID THAT.
THE HEIR TO THE THRONE, PRINCE YURIEL, IS STILL VERY YOUNG.
If only his elder brother hadn't died falling from his horse

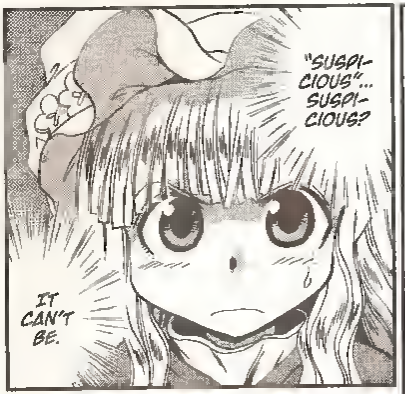
YOU LOOK CARE-FREE AS EVER.
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD THE RUMORS THAT ARE GOING AROUND THE CASTLE?
OH HI, IGGY.
YAAAAAAAAWN...
YES?
FLY!

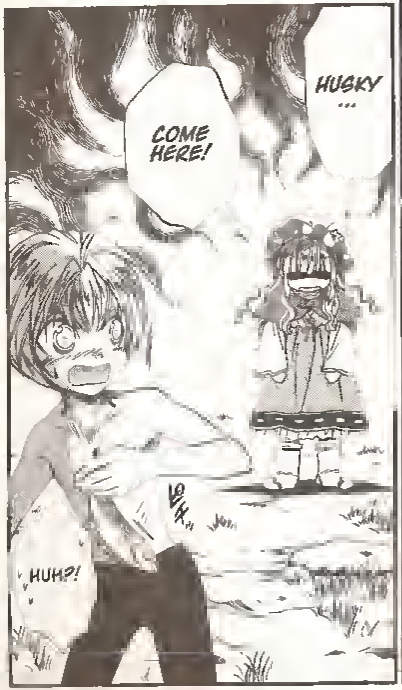
?
PAT
PAT
Let's go try the new menu at the Royal Dining Hall
I have coupons!
Aaaah!


WOW, IT'S COLD!
BUT IT STILL FEELS GREAT!
HOW DOES COORO KNOW FLY?

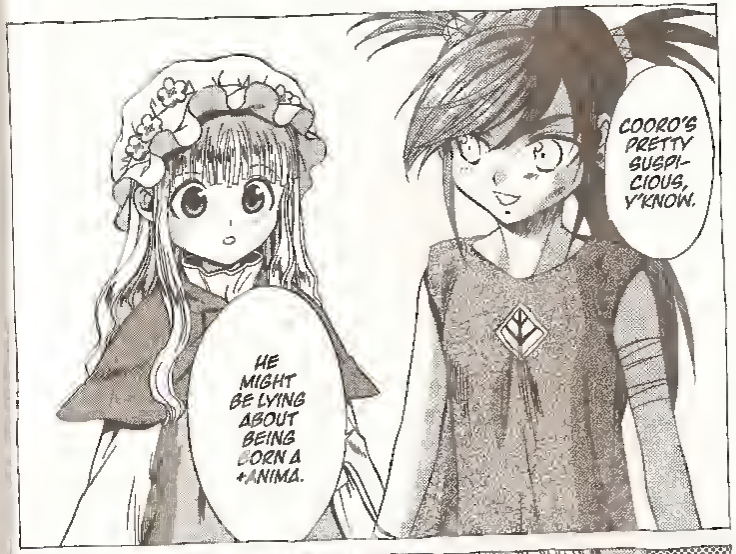
WELL, COORO...
I KNOW HIM. BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. ♪
...THAT'S ALL HE'LL SAY!
WHICH MAKES ME EVEN MORE WORRIED!
...
フイッ
I DON'T KNOW!
OH. I SEE.
FLY LOVES +ANIMA RESEARCH, AND COORO WAS A UNIQUE +ANIMA...
...SO I DON'T THINK FLY WOULD HAVE LEFT HIM ALONE.
COORO WAS TAKEN TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY BEFORE I WAS.
AND BY THE TIME I WENT THERE, HE WAS ALREADY GONE.
SO I DON'T KNOW HOW THINGS WERE WITH COORO AND FLY.

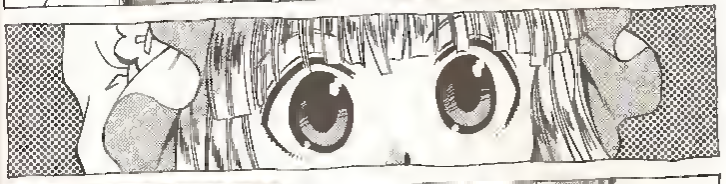

...
YOU'RE A +ANIMA, TOO, AREN'T YOU?
IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE +ANIMA BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE.
HE ACTUALLY TURNED NORMAL PEOPLE INTO +ANIMA?
+ANIMA RESEARCH YOU MEAN LIKE YOUR ANIMA IMPLANT?
IF YOU DON'T LIKE YOUR ANIMA, WHY NOT HAVE THE RESEARCH FACILITY TAKE IT FROM YOU?
I HEARD SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THEY IMPLANT AND REMOVE ANIMA AND ANIMAL BODIES, AND MAKE ARTIFICIAL +ANIMA.
TH-THEY CAN DO THAT?!

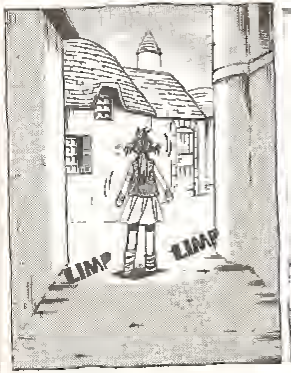

"SUSPI-
CIOUS"...
SUSPI-
CIOUS?
IT
CAN'T
BE.

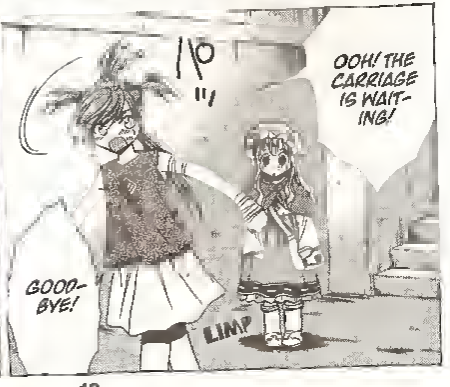

HUSKY
...
COME
HERE!
HUH?!

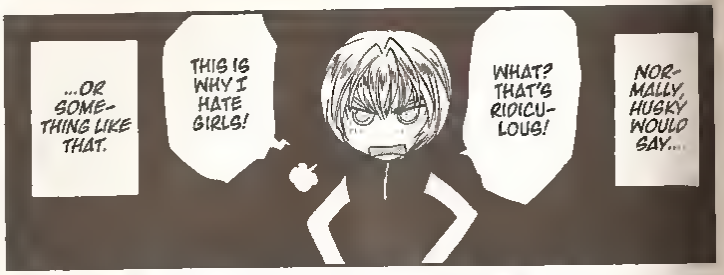
COORO IS
SUSPICIOUS?

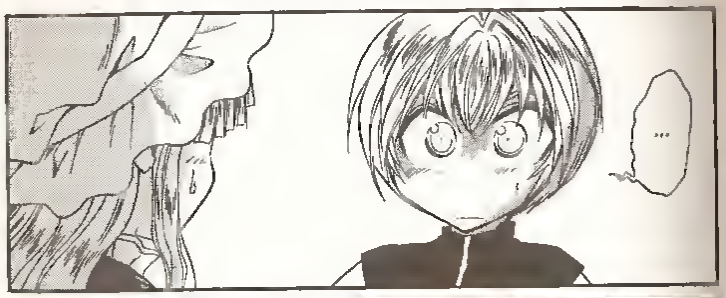

COORO'S
PRETTY
SUSPI-
CIOUS,
Y'KNOW.
HE
MIGHT
BE LYING
ABOUT
BEING
BORN A
+ANIMA.

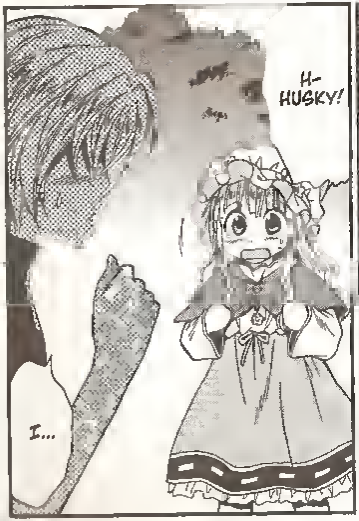


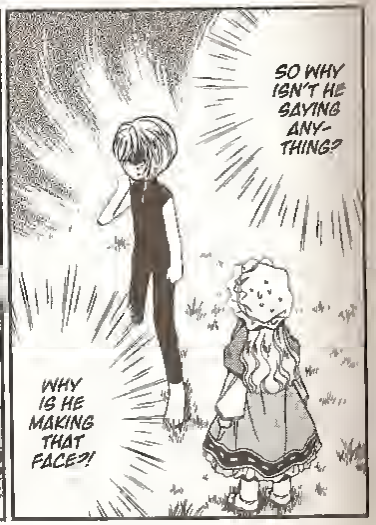

LIMP
LIMP


OOH! THE
CARRIAGE
IS WAIT-
ING!
GOOD-
BYE!
LIMP


...OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THIS IS WHY I HATE GIRLS!
WHAT? THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
NORMALLY, HUSKY WOULD SAY...

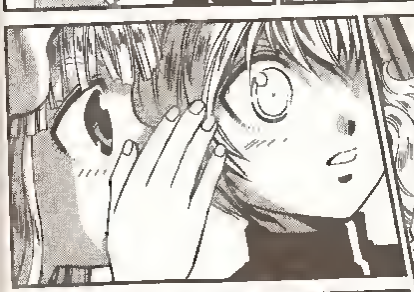

...


H-HUSKY!
I...


SO WHY ISN'T HE SAYING ANYTHING?
WHY IS HE MAKING THAT FACE?!

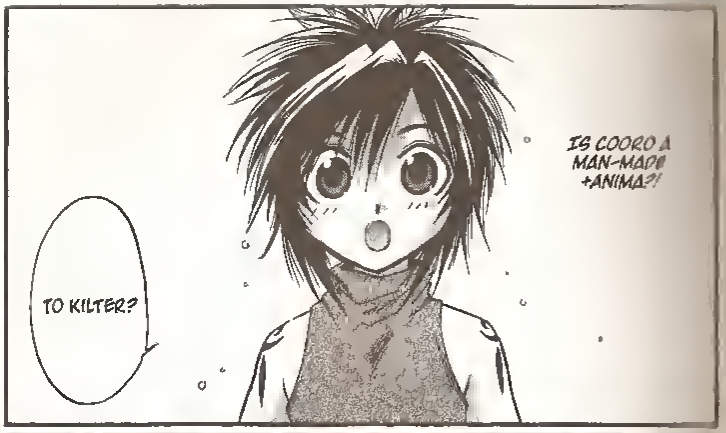
WE HAVE TO HURRY BACK.
WE SHOULDN'T LEAVE WITHOUT TELLING THE OTHERS.
<3

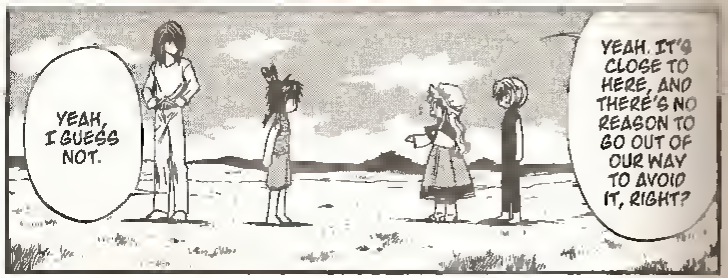
WHAT'RE WE DOING OUT HERE?
...

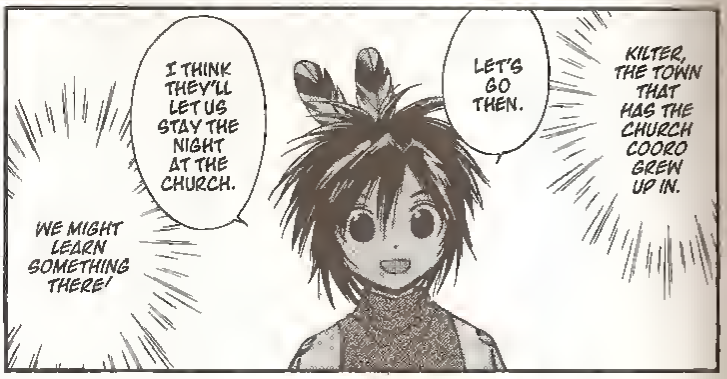


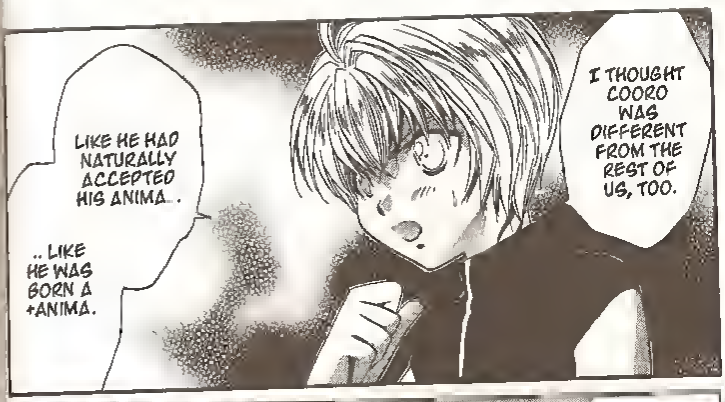
DON'T GO!!
GYA!

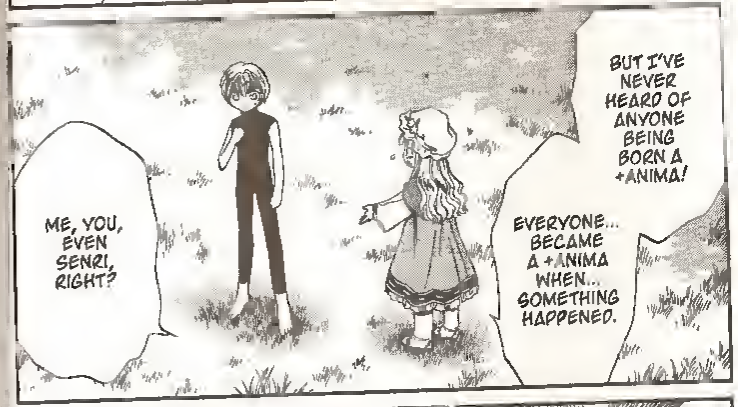
HUH?
COORO, A MAN-MADE +ANIMA?

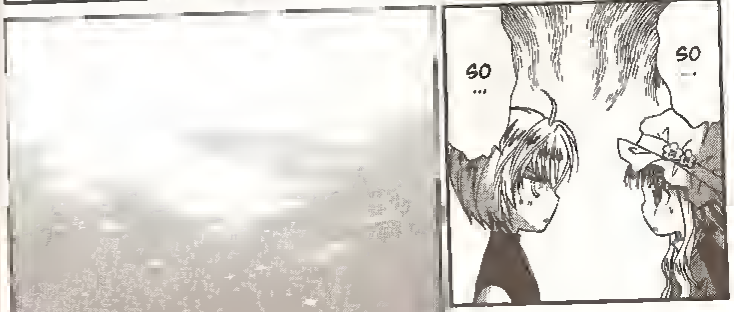

IS COORO A MAN-MADE +ANIMA?!
TO KILTER?

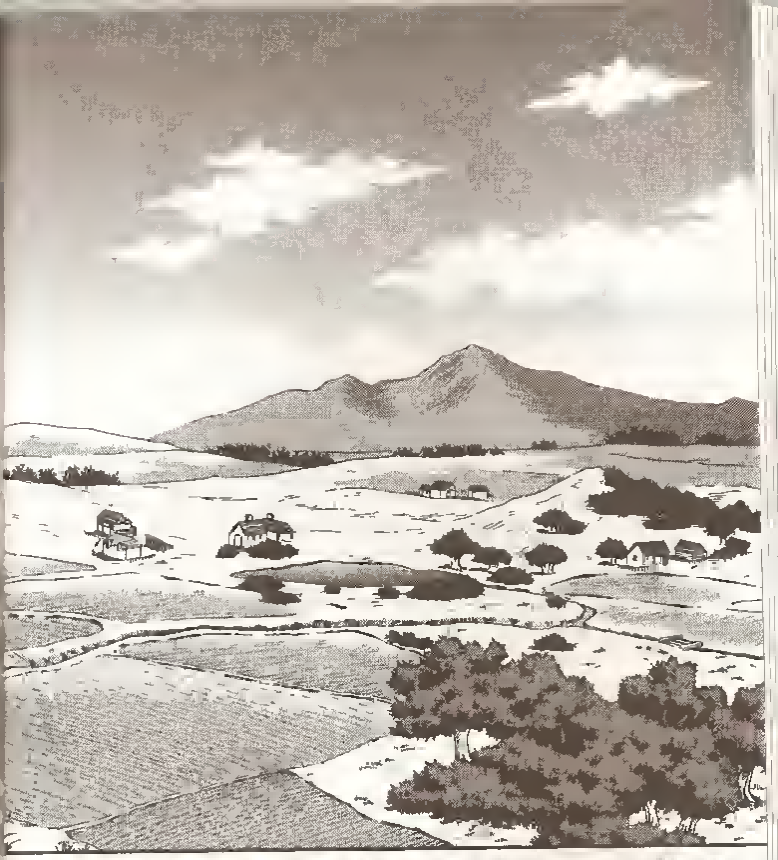

YEAH, I GUESS NOT.
YEAH. IT'S CLOSE TO HERE, AND THERE'S NO REASON TO GO OUT OF OUR WAY TO AVOID IT, RIGHT?


I THINK THEY'LL LET US STAY THE NIGHT AT THE CHURCH.
WE MIGHT LEARN SOMETHING THERE!
LET'S GO THEN.
KILTER, THE TOWN THAT HAS THE CHURCH COORO GREW UP IN.


I THOUGHT COORO WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE REST OF US, TOO.
LIKE HE HAD NATURALLY ACCEPTED HIS ANIMA...
..LIKE HE WAS BORN A +ANIMA.

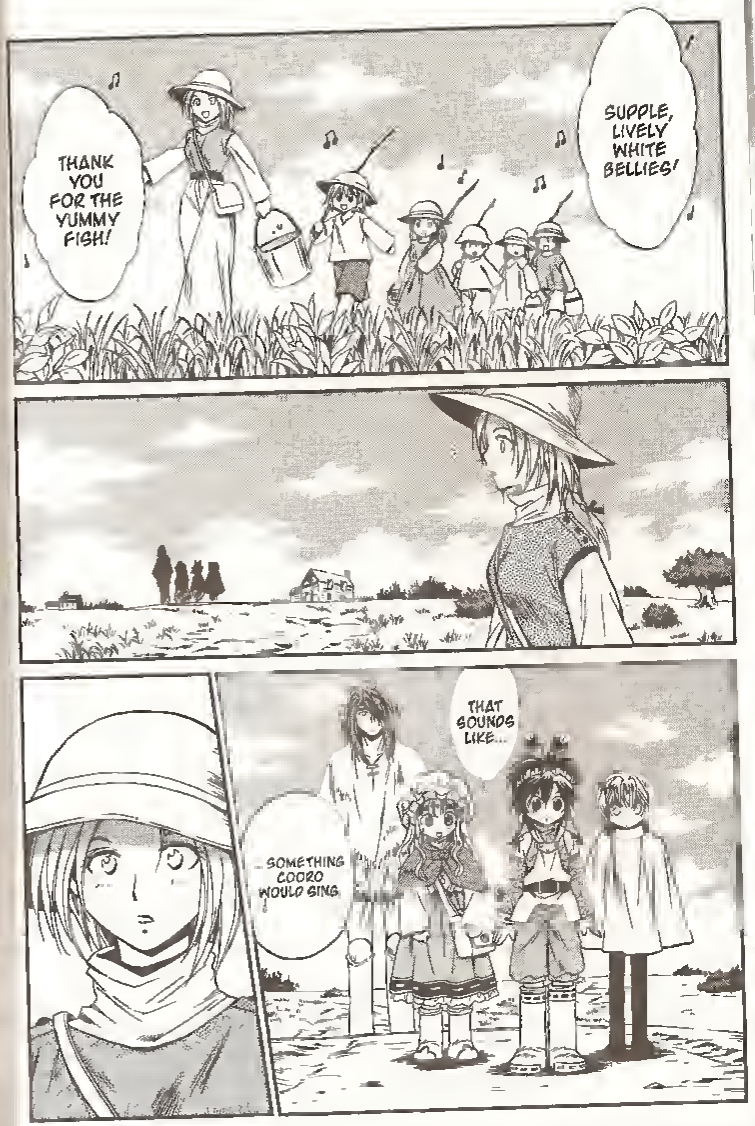

BUT I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANYONE BEING BORN A +ANIMA!
ME, YOU, EVEN SENRI, RIGHT?
EVERYONE... BECAME A +ANIMA WHEN... SOMETHING HAPPENED.

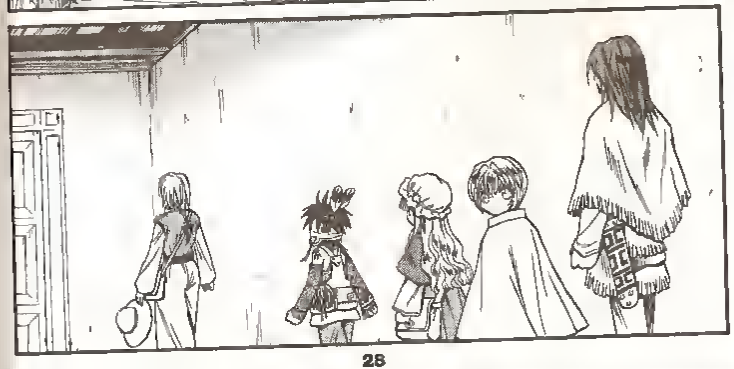

SO...
SO...

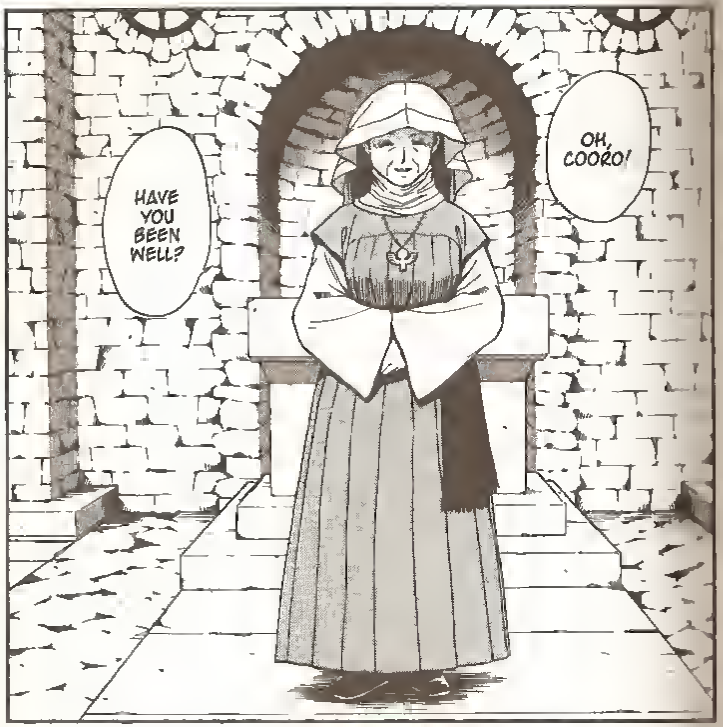


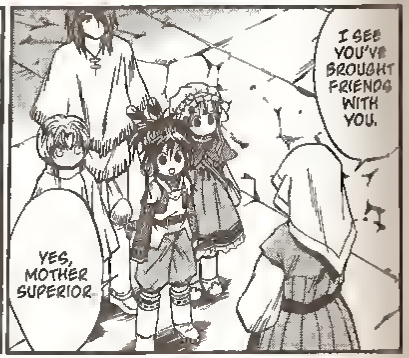
SKIPPING OVER THE BLUE WATER!
SPARKLING, HAPPY SILVER FINS!

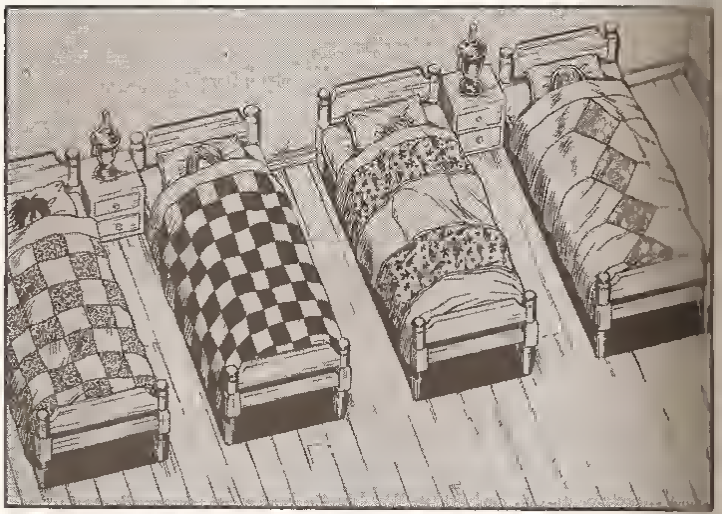
OH! YOU'RE TALLER THOUGH!
WOW, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!
COORO?!
COORO, IS THAT YOU?
YOU WERE THE OLDEST KID AT THE CHURCH.
OH! RAINE!
LET'S HURRY BACK TO THE CHURCH!
CAN YOU STAY THE NIGHT TONIGHT?
THE MOTHER SUPERIOR WILL BE HAPPY TO SEE YOU!

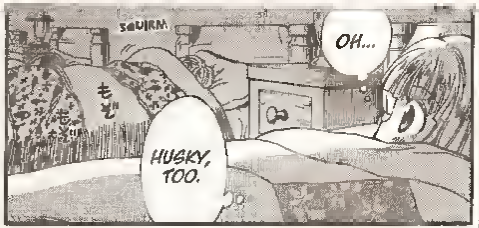

THANK YOU FOR THE YUMMY FISH!
SUPPLE, LIVELY WHITE BELLIES!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE...
...SOMETHING COORO WOULD SING.



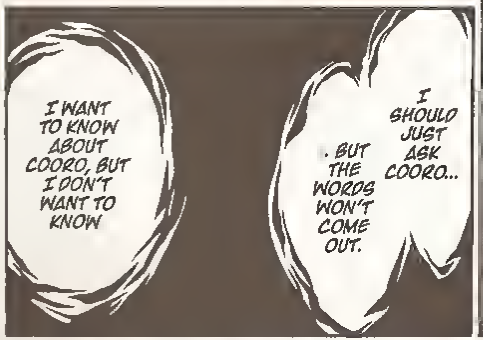

HAVE YOU BEEN WELL?
OH, COORO!

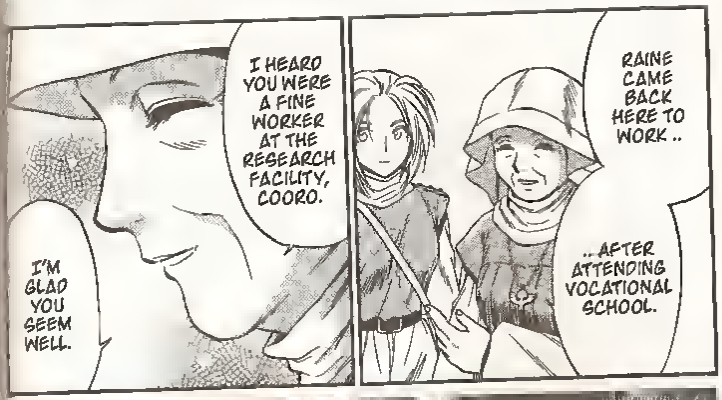

I SEE YOU'VE BROUGHT FRIENDS WITH YOU.
YES, MOTHER SUPERIOR.

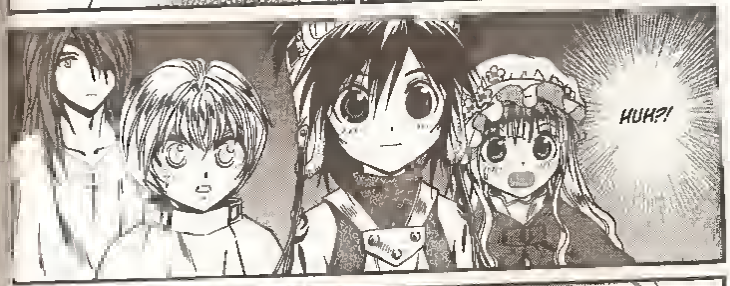


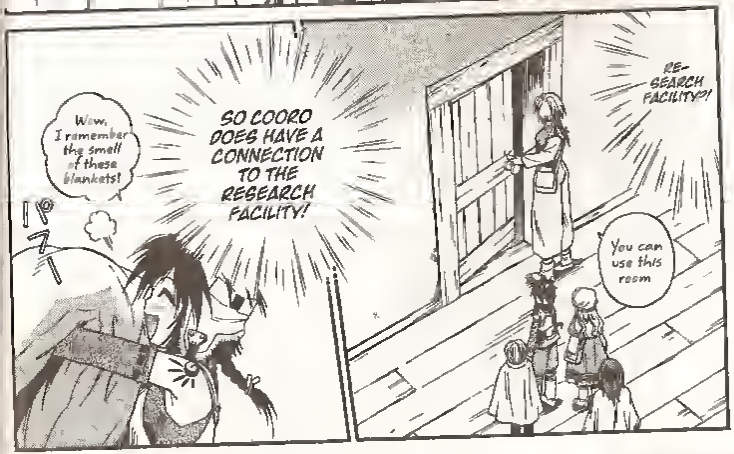

SQUIRM
もぜ
OH...
HUSKY, TOO.

NNNNGH
SQUIRM
SQUIRM


I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT COORO, BUT I DON'T WANT TO KNOW
. BUT THE WORDS WON'T COME OUT.
I SHOULD JUST ASK COORO...


I HEARD YOU WERE A FINE WORKER AT THE RESEARCH FACILITY, COORO.
I'M GLAD YOU SEEM WELL.
RAINE CAME BACK HERE TO WORK ..
.. AFTER ATTENDING VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.


HUH?!

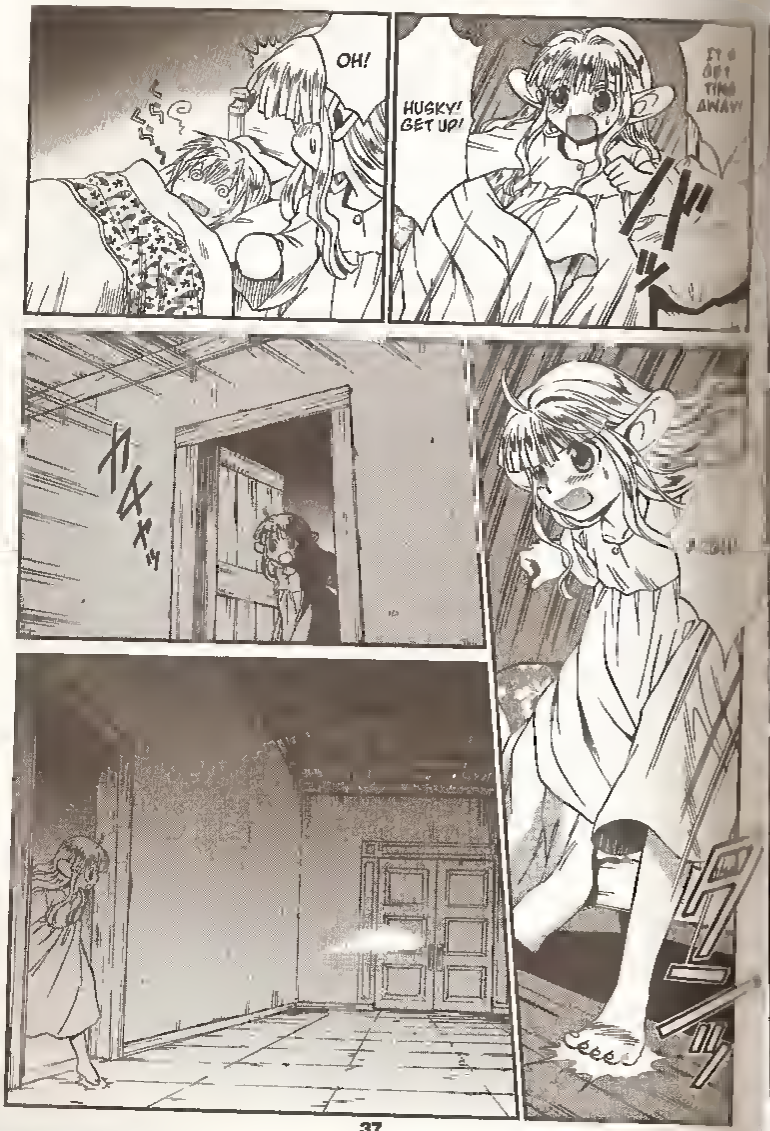

Wow, I remember the smell of these blankets!
SO COORO DOES HAVE A CONNECTION TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY!
RE-SEARCH FACILITY?!
You can use this room

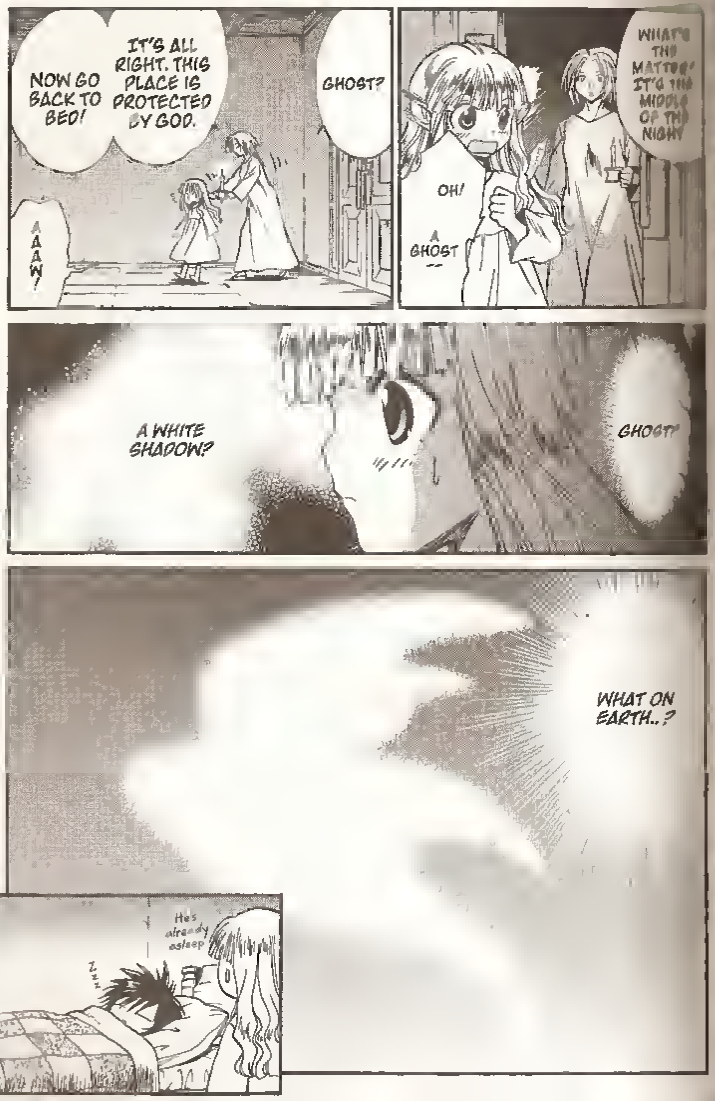
むっくり!
I'M SURE HUCKY FEELS THE SAME WAY.

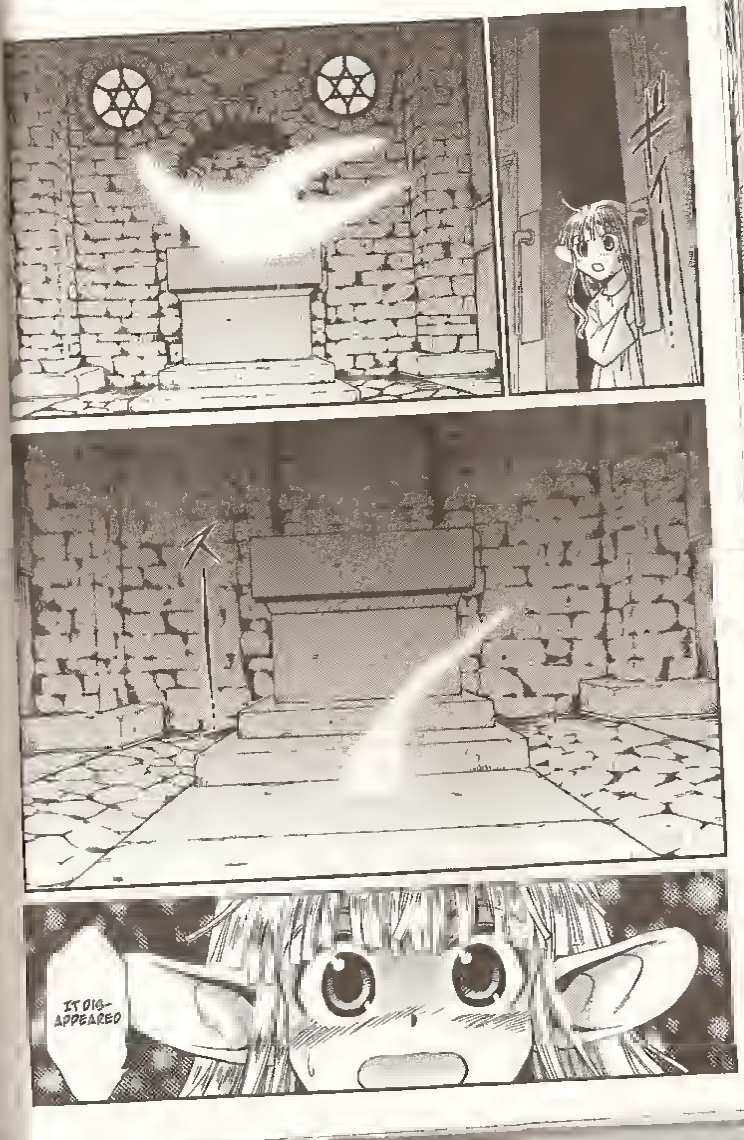
EEK...
POP

WH--
WHAT IS THAT?
A GHOST?!

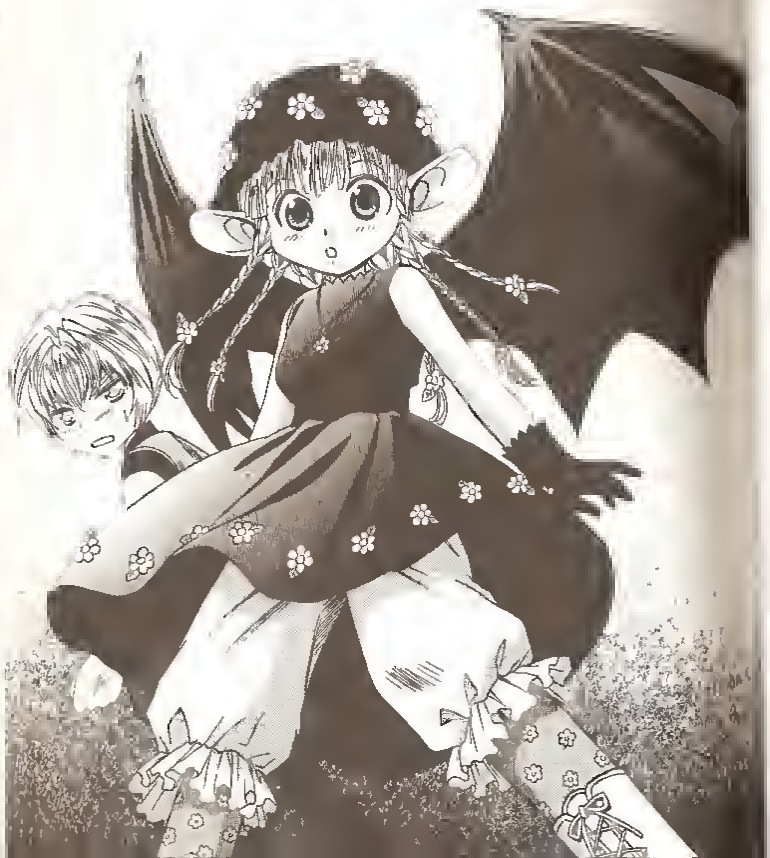
I DID IT!
WHOA!
OH NO! IT DIDN'T WORK!

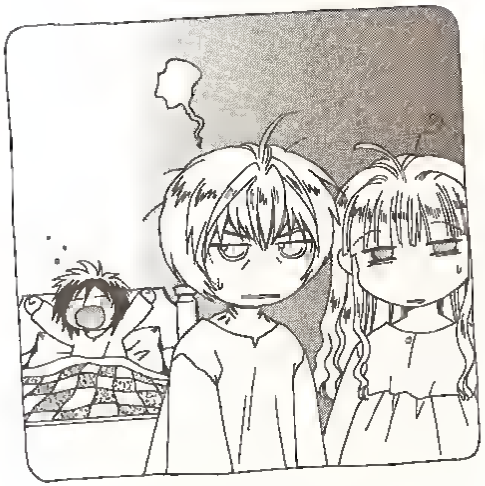

OH!
HUSKY! GET UP!
IT'S GET TIME AWAY!
カチャッ


NOW GO BACK TO BED!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. THIS PLACE IS PROTECTED BY GOD.
GHOST?
AAAW
WHAT'S THE MATTER? IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT
OH! A GHOST
A WHITE SHADOW?
GHOST?
WHAT ON EARTH..?
He's already asleep
Zzzz...

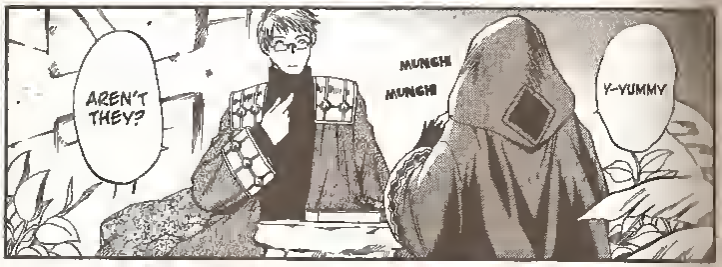

IT DIS-APPEARED

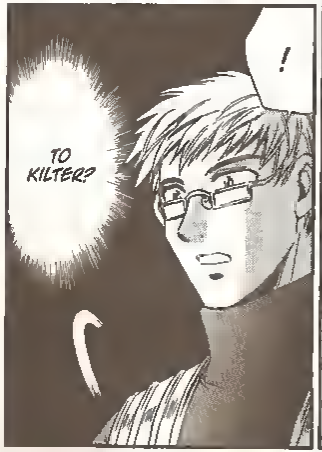
Chapter 52
Opening Pandora's Box

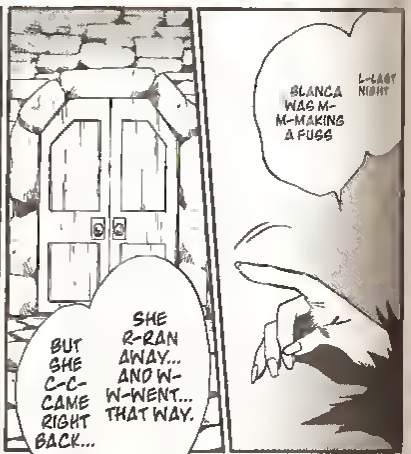




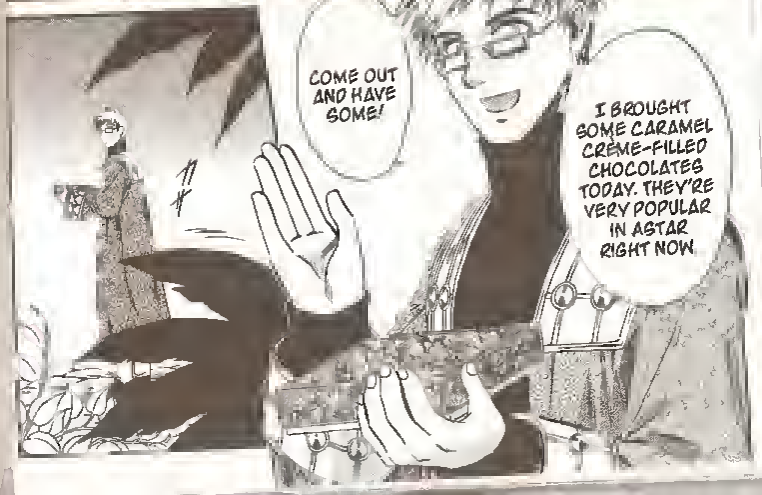
We were not able to sleep.


AREN'T THEY?
MUNCH MUNCH
Y-YUMMY


!
TO KILTER?


BUT SHE C-C-CAME RIGHT BACK...
SHE R-RAN AWAY... AND W-W-WENT... THAT WAY.
BLANCA WAS M-M-MAKING A FUSS
L-LAST NIGHT

MASTER!
HELLO!
IT'S FLY.


COME OUT AND HAVE SOME!
I BROUGHT SOME CARAMEL CRÈME-FILLED CHOCOLATES TODAY. THEY'RE VERY POPULAR IN ASTAR RIGHT NOW.

HOW CAN YOU GO RIGHT BACK TO SNORING AFTER YOU AND THAT WEIRD THING WERE STARING AT EACH OTHER?!
ARGH, COORO! IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOU?
...
SERIOUSLY. WE COULDN'T GET TO SLEEP UNTIL MORNING.
Sigh
HUH?

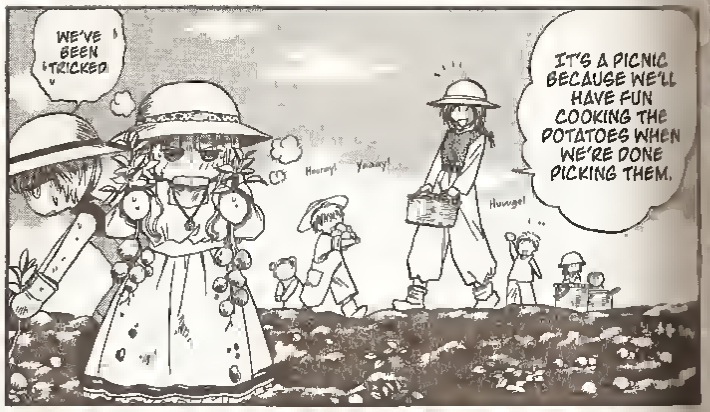
SHE MUST BE RESTLESS BECAUSE THE BLACK ANGEL IS IN KILTER RIGHT NOW.
SHE'S HOPELESS.
THAT SHOWS JUST HOW MUCH HER ANIMA HAS GROWN
I WONDER... IS IT ALMOST TIME?
IS THAT WHY THE BLACK ANGEL CAME BACK?

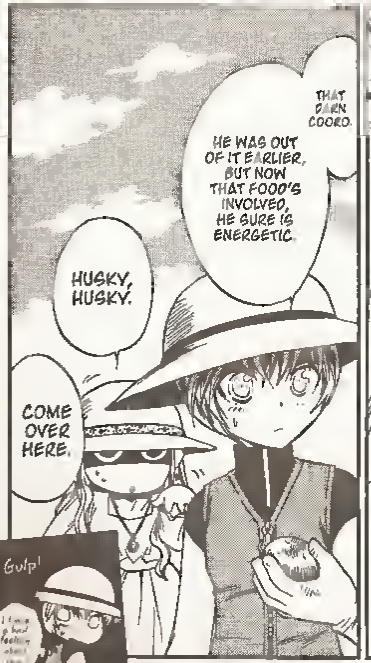
I WONDER IF IT REALLY WAS A GHOST.
THERE'S A GRAVEYARD HERE.
THIS IS A CHURCH, AFTER ALL
A GHOST?
WHAT, WHAT?
G Y
THINKING BACK ON IT NOW, IT'S SCARY!
THE ALTAR?!
YES. I CHASED IT, BUT IT DISAPPEARED UNDER THE ALTAR!

SHE'S ALWAYS TELLING US THAT.
WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO TOUCH IT.
A GHOST? YOU MUST HAVE IMAGINED IT.
THE ALTAR IS THE MOST SACRED PLACE IN THIS CHURCH.
YOU MUSTN'T TOUCH IT CARELESSLY.
IT SEEMS LIKE THEY DON'T WANT US GOING NEAR THE ALTAR
ARE THEY HIDING SOMETHING?
THAT'S SUSPICIOUS!!
YOU AGREE IT'S WEIRD, RIGHT?

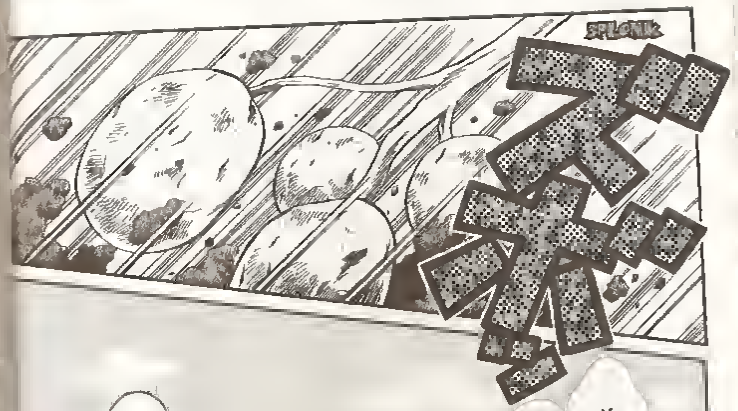
WE STILL HAVEN'T LEARNED ANYTHING ABOUT COORO, AFTER ALL
THEN LET'S TAKE OUR TIME!
'KAY?
AREN'T YOU HAPPY TO BE BACK WHERE YOU GREW UP?
WE JUST GOT HERE YESTERDAY!
YEAH, I AM.
THERE YOU ARE!
AH!
YAAAY! ♡ A PICNIC! ♡♡
IS THAT OKAY WITH YOU, COORO?
HUH?
NANA?
COME ON, COME ON!
LET'S GO!
RAIN?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME, TOO?
WE'RE HAVING A PICNIC WITH EVERYONE FROM THE CHURCH THIS AFTERNOON.

COORO!
Gasp!
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING, COORO?
OH... WHAT?
YOU KEEP SPACING OUT!
AND YOU SLEPT SO MUCH LAST NIGHT. ARE YOU STILL SLEEPY?
UH-UH.
YOU KNOW, I WAS JUST WONDERING...
WHEN ARE WE GONNA LEAVE?

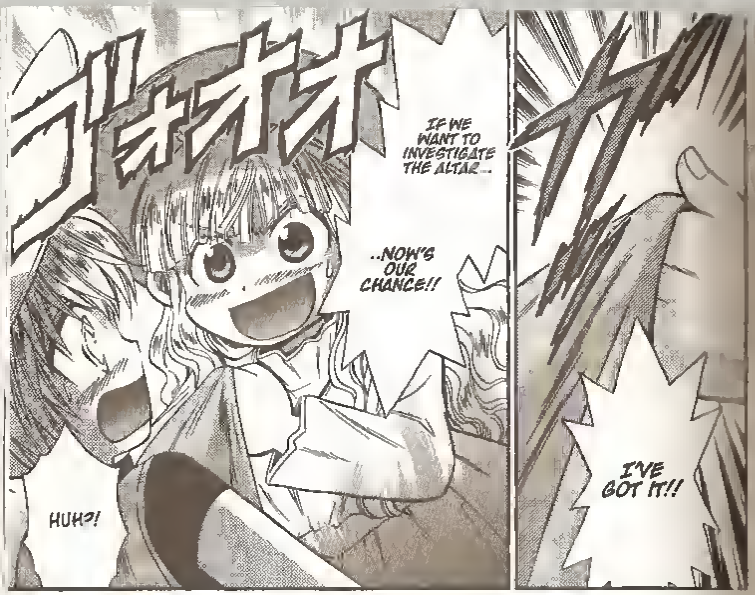

WE'VE BEEN TRICKED.
IT'S A PICNIC BECAUSE WE'LL HAVE FUN COOKING THE POTATOES WHEN WE'RE DONE PICKING THEM.
Hooray!
Yaaay!
Huuuge!


THAT DAMN COORD.
HE WAS OUT OF IT EARLIER, BUT NOW THAT FOOD'S INVOLVED, HE SURE IS ENERGETIC.
HUSKY, HUSKY.
COME OVER HERE.
Gulp!
I have a bad feeling about this.

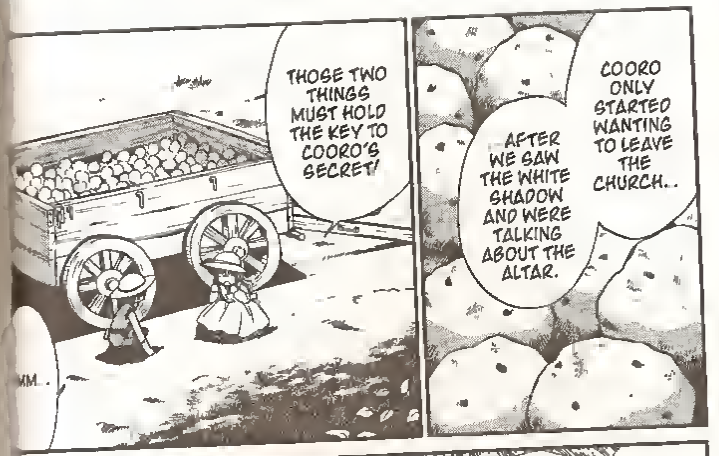
ずぼっ
YAAAY! THEY'RE SO BIG!

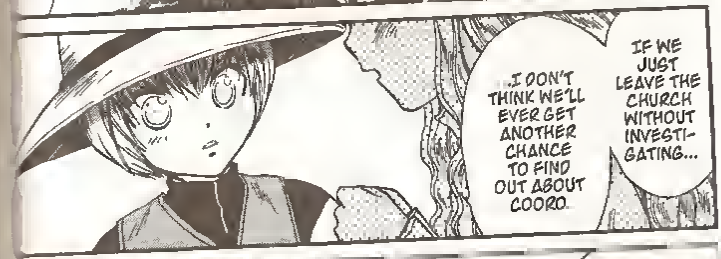

SPLONK

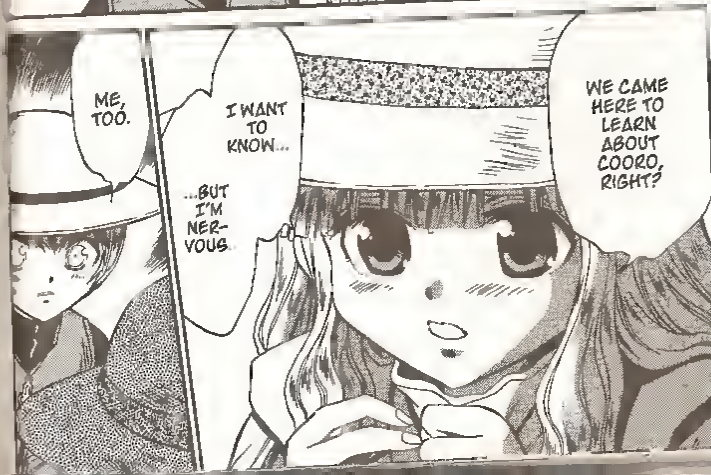
ME, TOO! LOOK!
YAAAY! LOOK AT THE BIG ONES I GOT!
POTATOES. ♡
ズボボボ
THIS IS A PICNIC?!


ジリオオ
IF WE WANT TO INVESTIGATE THE ALTAR...
..NOW'S OUR CHANCE!!
HUH?!
I'VE GOT IT!!

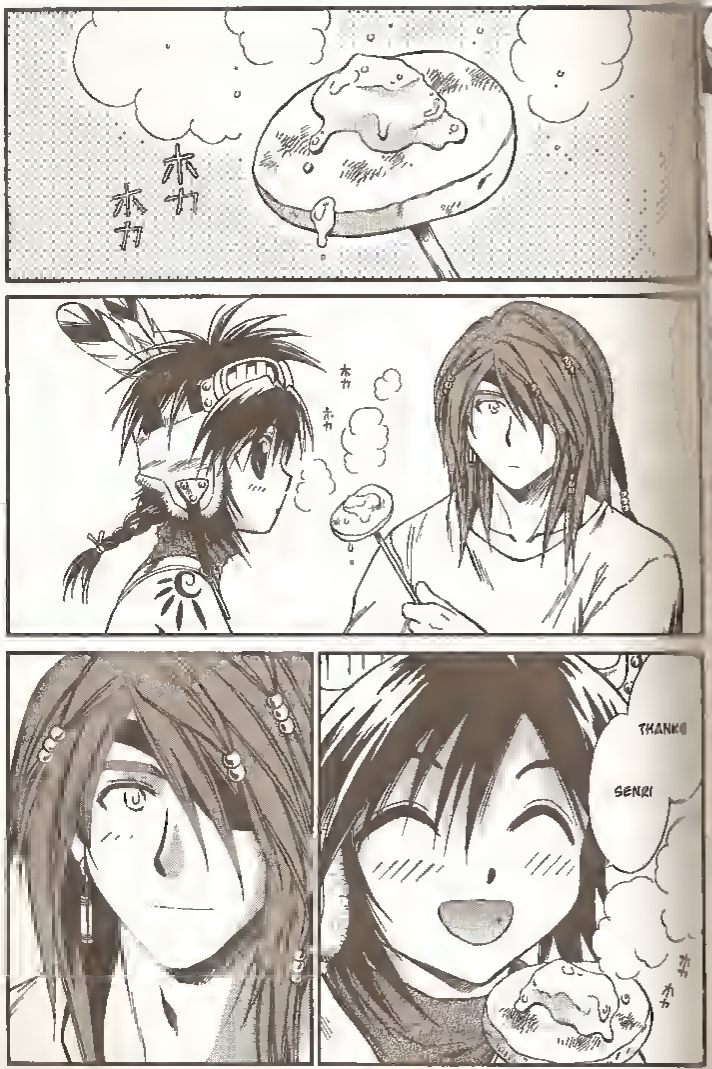
CLICK

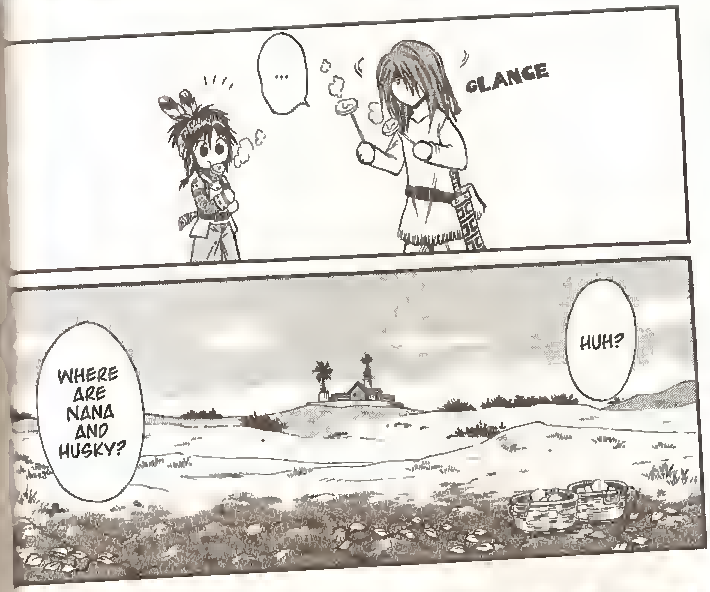

THOSE TWO THINGS MUST HOLD THE KEY TO COORO'S SECRET!
COORO ONLY STARTED WANTING TO LEAVE THE CHURCH..
AFTER WE SAW THE WHITE SHADOW AND WERE TALKING ABOUT THE ALTAR.

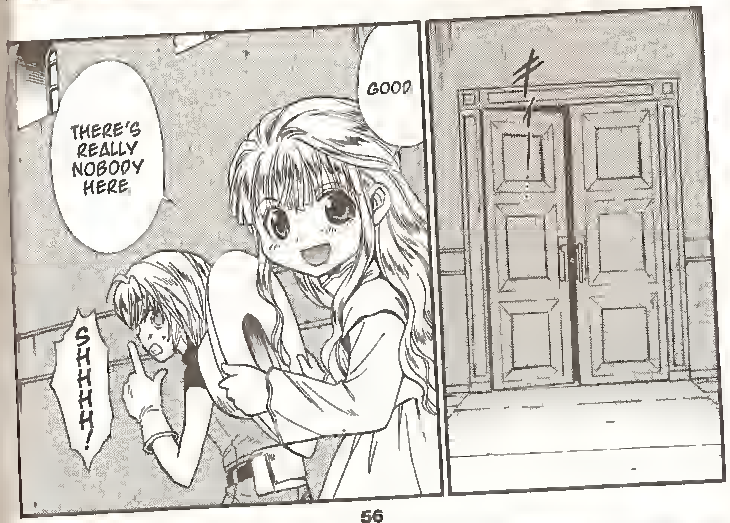

I DON'T THINK WE'LL EVER GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO FIND OUT ABOUT COORO.
IF WE JUST LEAVE THE CHURCH WITHOUT INVESTIGATING...

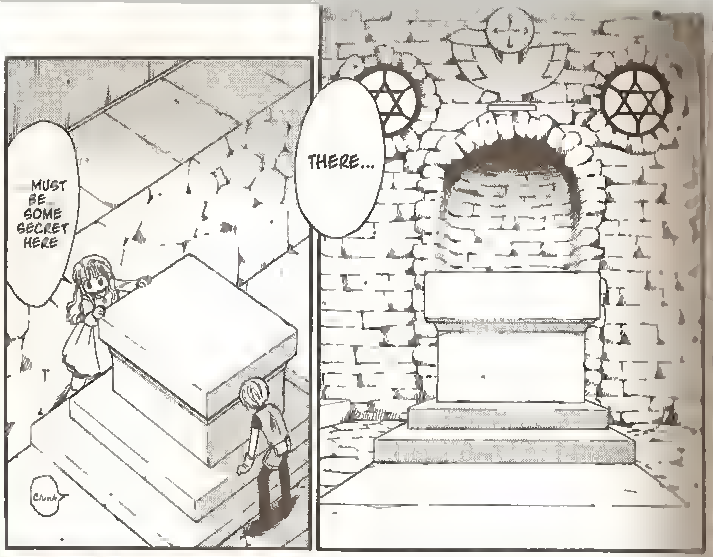

ME, TOO.
I WANT TO KNOW...
...BUT I'M NERVOUS.
WE CAME HERE TO LEARN ABOUT COORO, RIGHT?

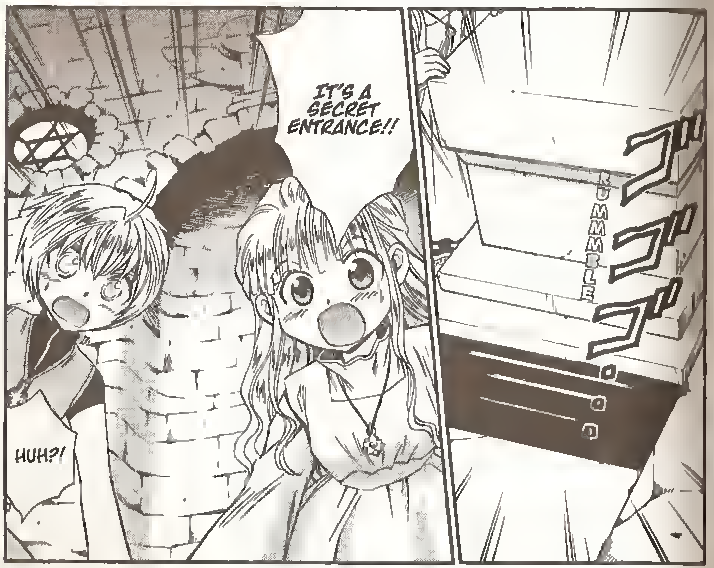
ジュウ
ジュウ
ジュウ
ジュウ
ジュウ
I FORGOT WHERE I WAS FOR A SECOND
HMM... WHAT'LL I DO?
HEH HEH HEH

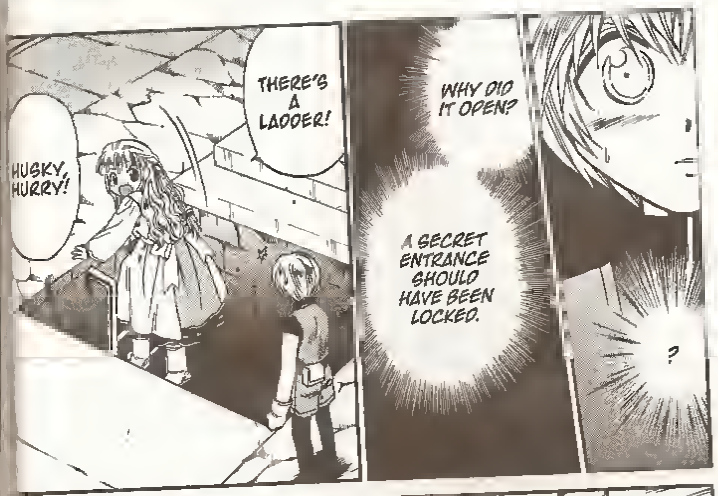

ホカ
ホカ
ホカ
ホカ
THANK
SENRI
ホカ
ホカ

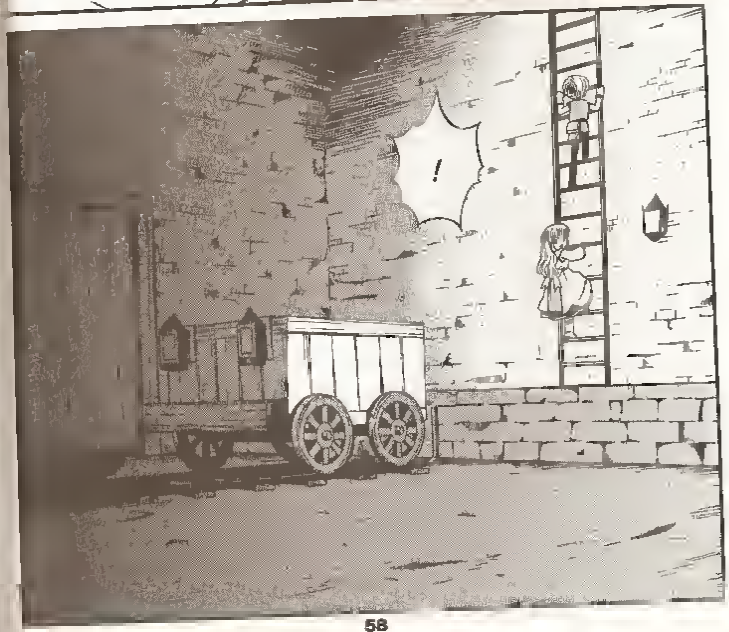

...
GLANCE
WHERE ARE NANA AND HUSKY?
HUH?


GOOD
THERE'S REALLY NOBODY HERE
SHHHH!


MUST BE SOME SECRET HERE
Clunk
THERE...


IT'S A SECRET ENTRANCE!!
HUH?!
RUMMAGE
ゴゴゴゴ


HUSKY, HURRY!
THERE'S A LADDER!
WHY DID IT OPEN?
A SECRET ENTRANCE SHOULD HAVE BEEN LOCKED.
?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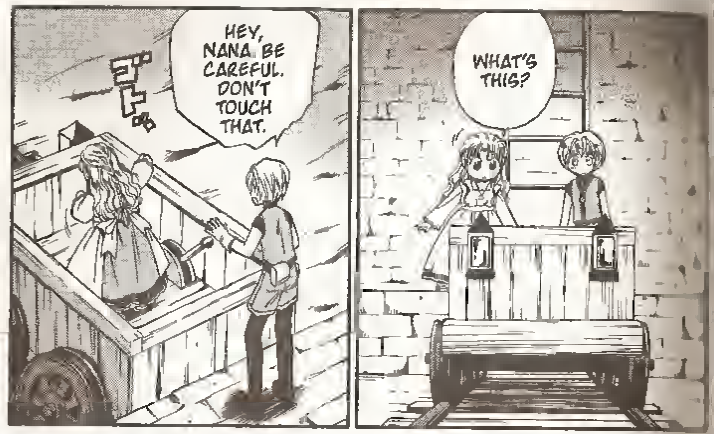
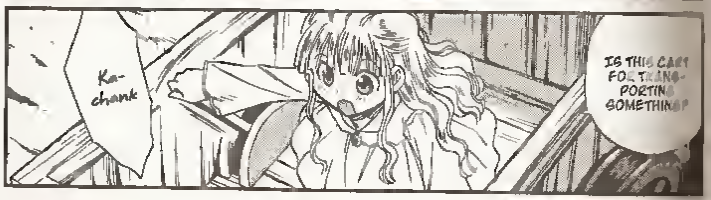
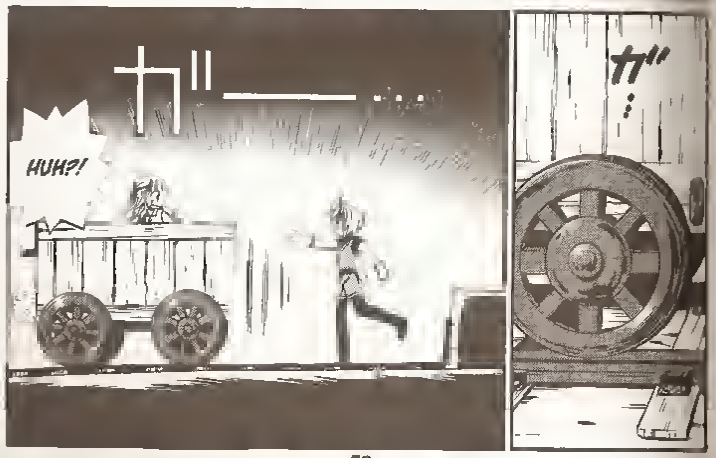
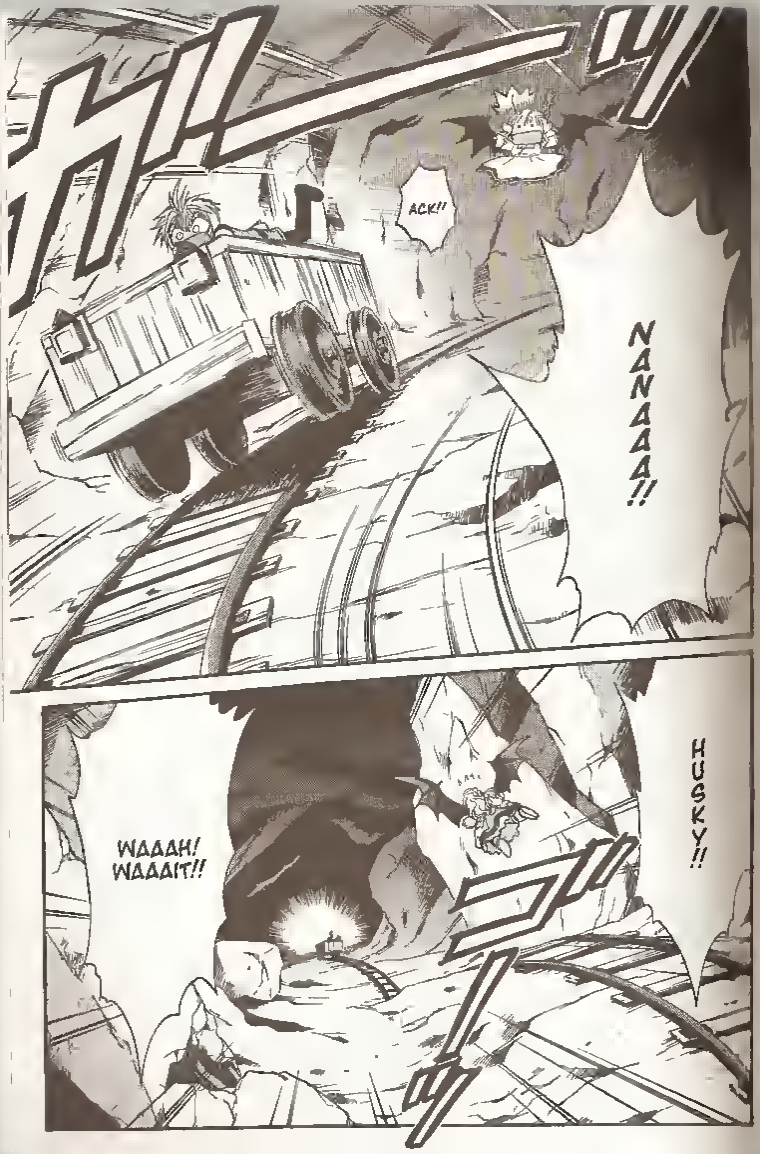
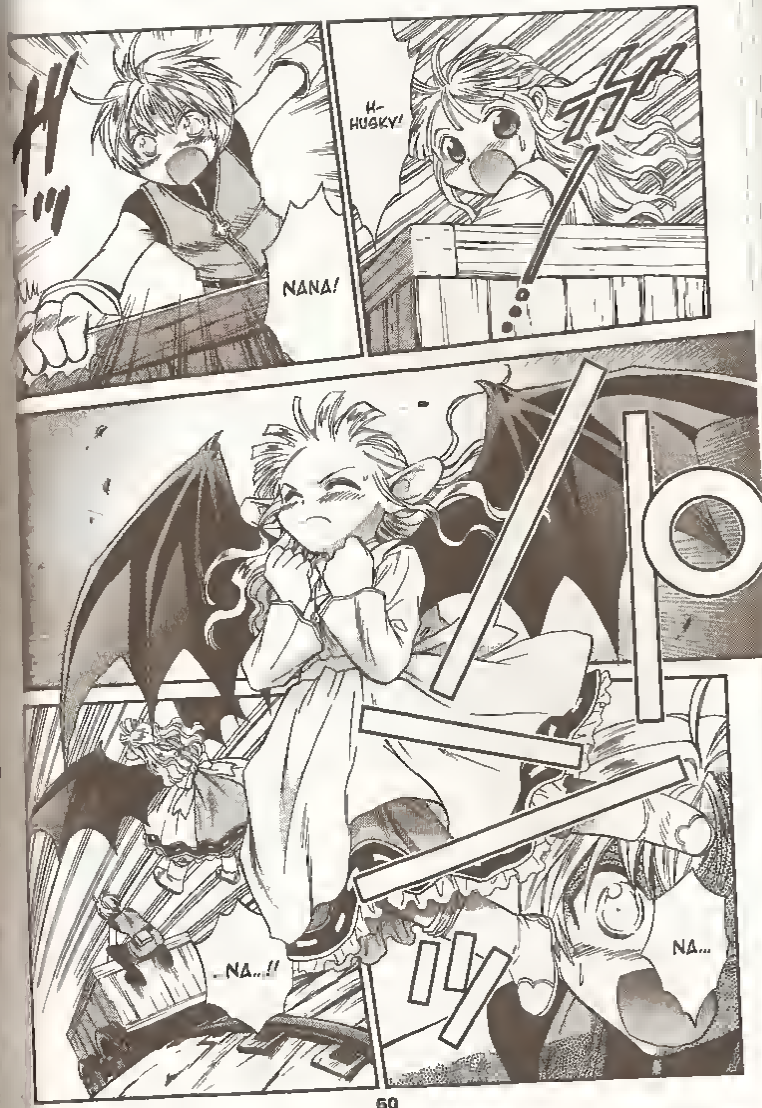
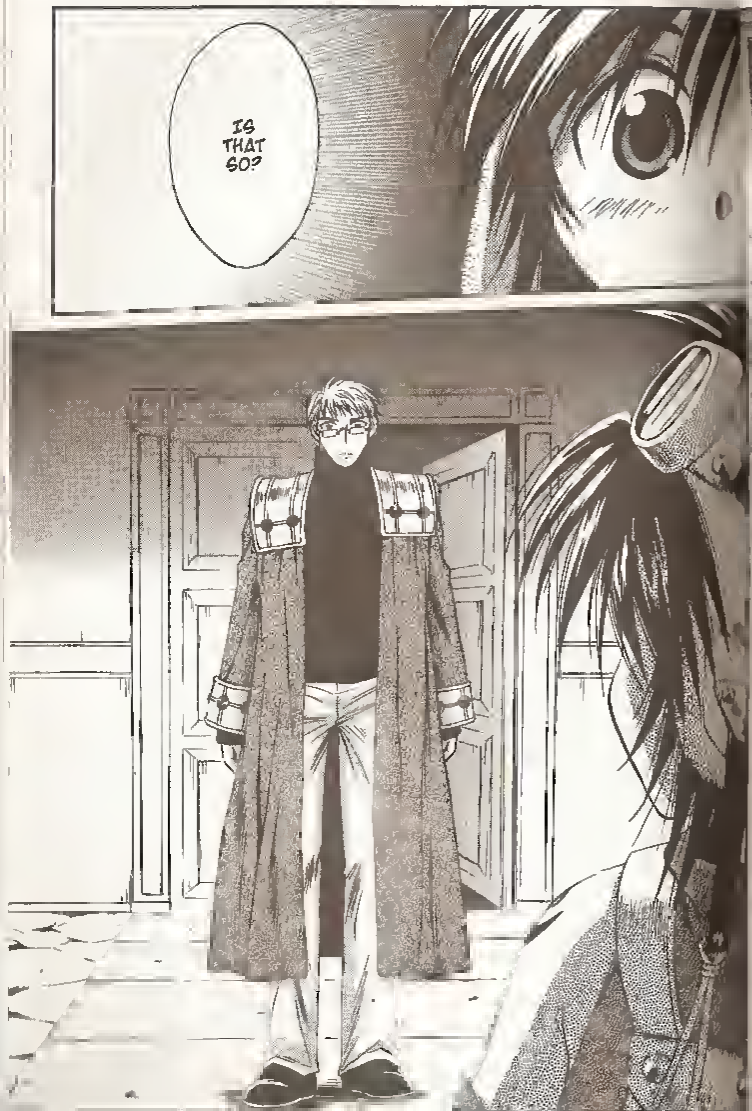

HEY, NANA. BE CAREFUL. DON'T TOUCH THAT.
WHAT'S THIS?

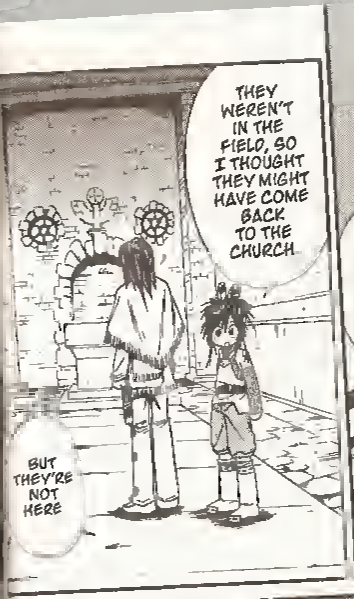

Ka-chank
IS THIS CART FOR TRANSPORTING SOMETHING?


HUH?!


ACK!!
NANAAA!!
WAAAH! WAAAIT!!
HUSKY!!


NANA!
H-HUSKY!
..NA..!!
NA...

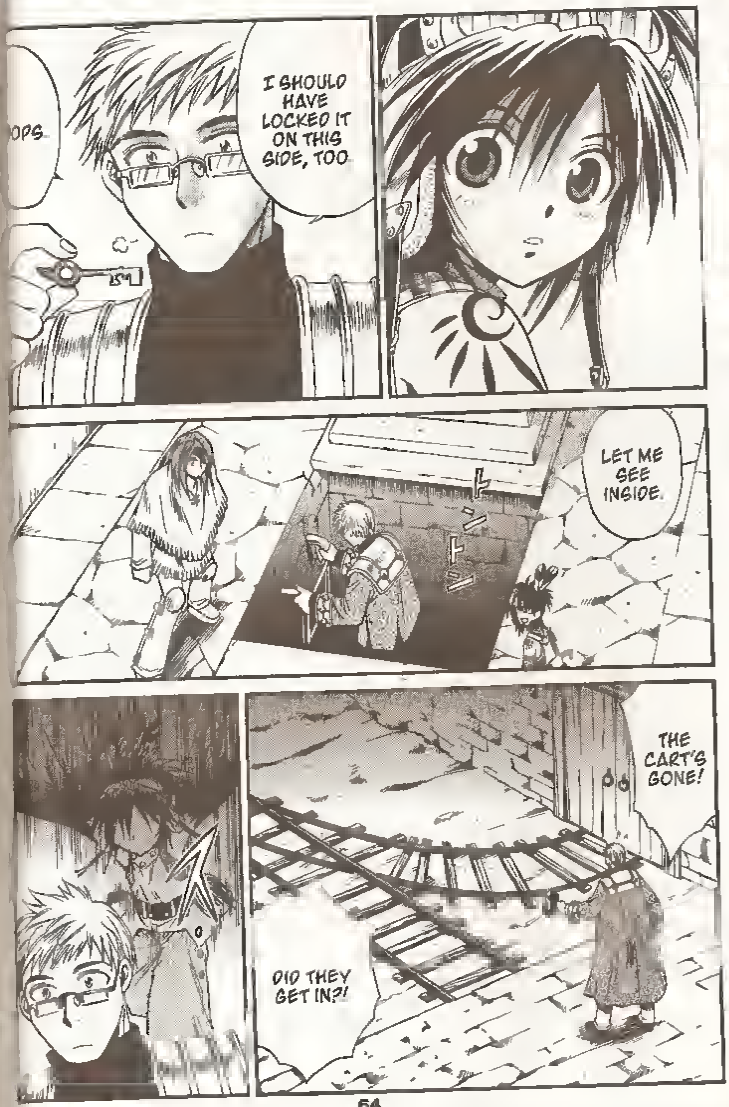

IS THAT SO?

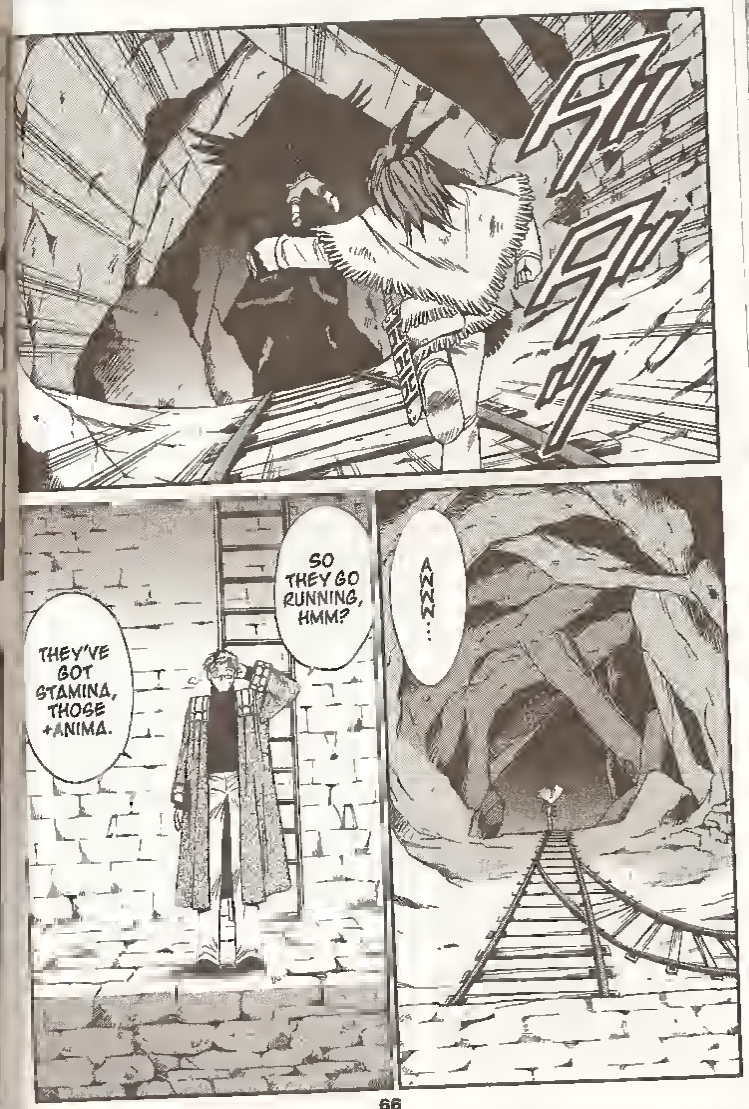

THEY WEREN'T IN THE FIELD, SO I THOUGHT THEY MIGHT HAVE COME BACK TO THE CHURCH.
BUT THEY'RE NOT HERE

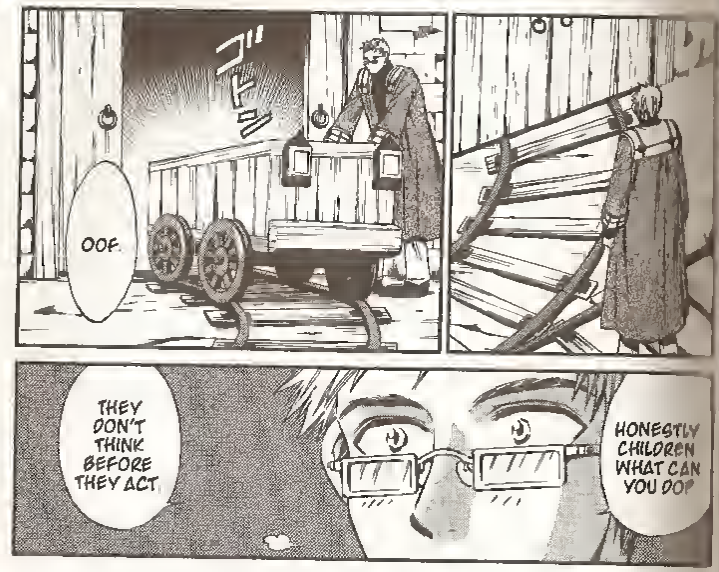
NANAAA!
HUSKYYY

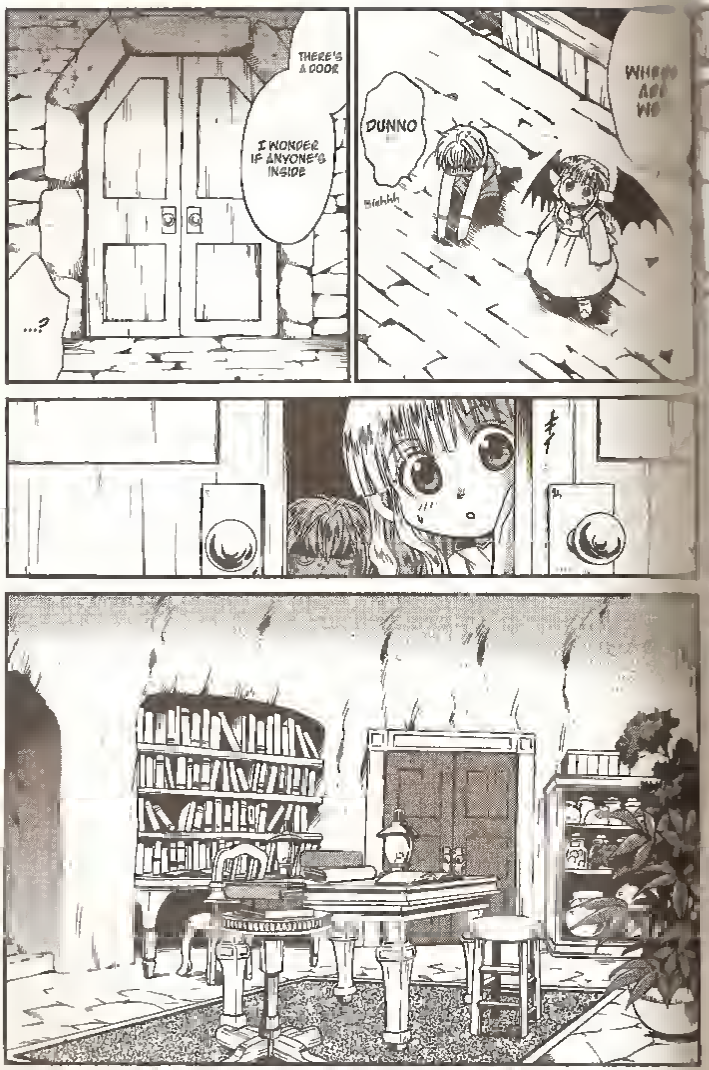
I GUESS...
...HUSKY AND NANA WENT DOWN THERE.

HUH?


OOPS.
I SHOULD HAVE LOCKED IT ON THIS SIDE, TOO.
LET ME SEE INSIDE.
THE CART'S GONE!
DID THEY GET IN?!


AWWW...
SO THEY GO RUNNING, HMM?
THEY'VE GOT STAMINA, THOSE +ANIMA.


ゴドン
OOF.
THEY DON'T THINK BEFORE THEY ACT.
HONESTLY CHILDREN WHAT CAN YOU DO?

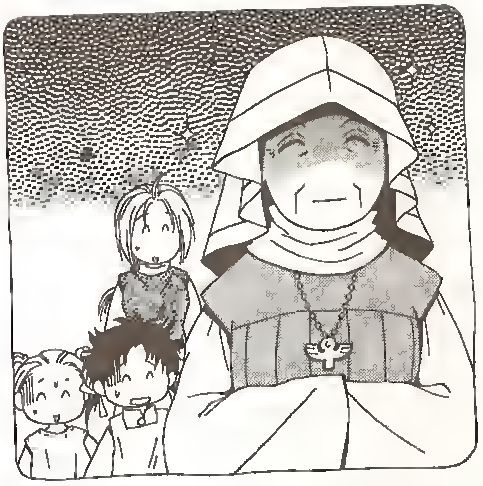

THERE'S A DOOR
I WONDER IF ANYONE'S INSIDE
...?
DUNNO
Hehhh
WHERE AM I?

ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
ガタン
HANG IN THERE!
FLOP
ポト
WE'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF IT MOVES AGAIN!
HUSKY! HURRY AND GET OFF!
IT...IT STOPPED.
UGH... BLEH...

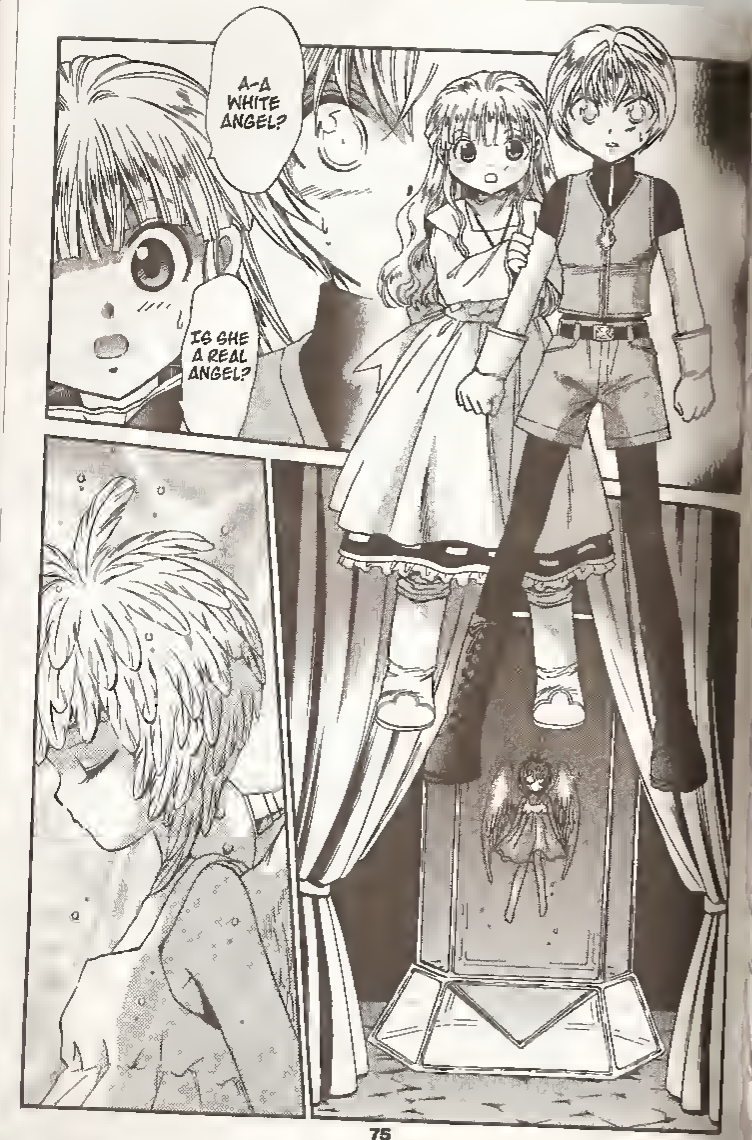
AN...
AN ANGEL?!

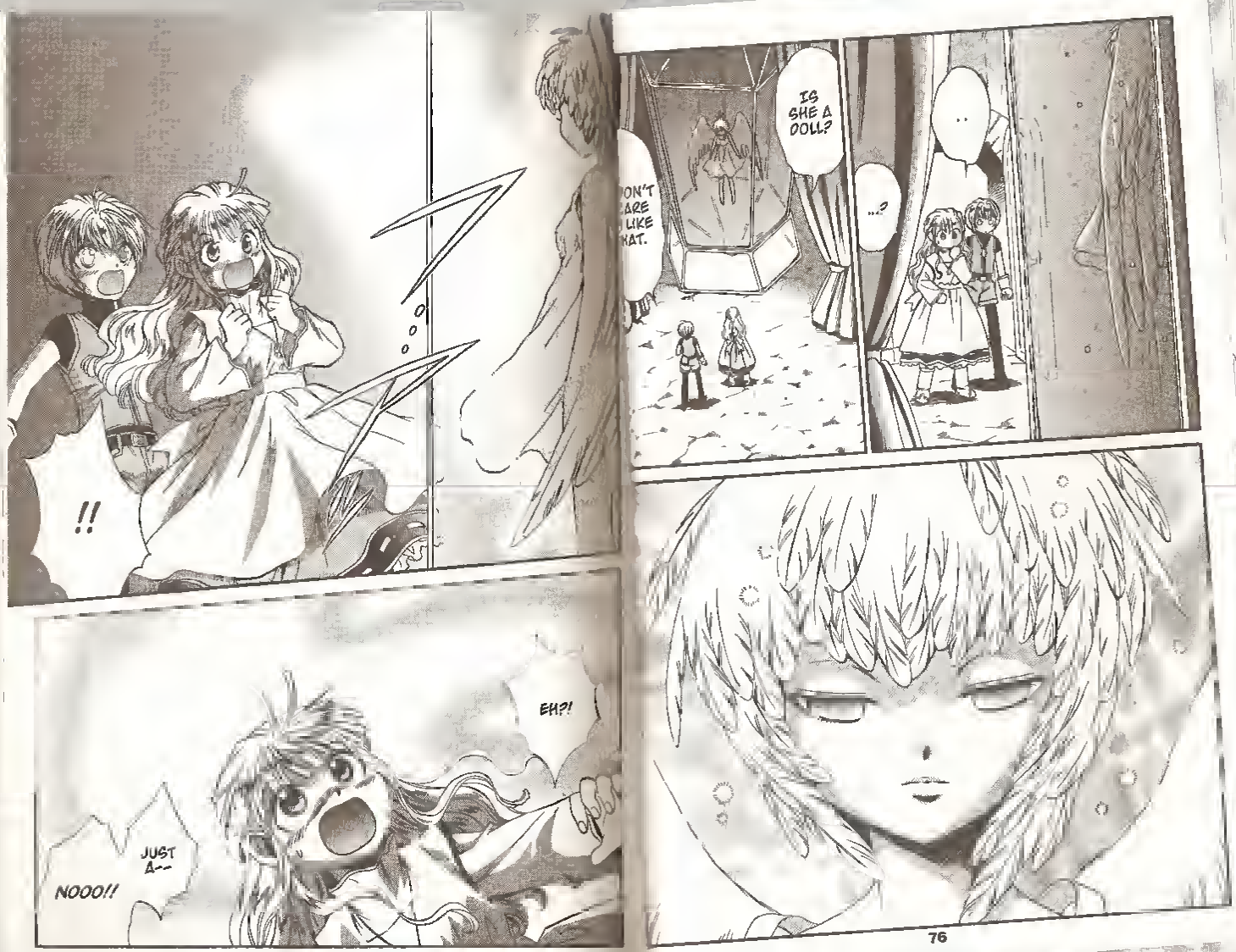
CARAMEL CHOCO-LATES!
OH!
IT LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF RESEARCH ROOM.
EEEK!!
LOOK! LOOK! OVER THERE!!
HUH?!
"ANIMA IMPLAN-TATION" ...
THIS PLACE ...

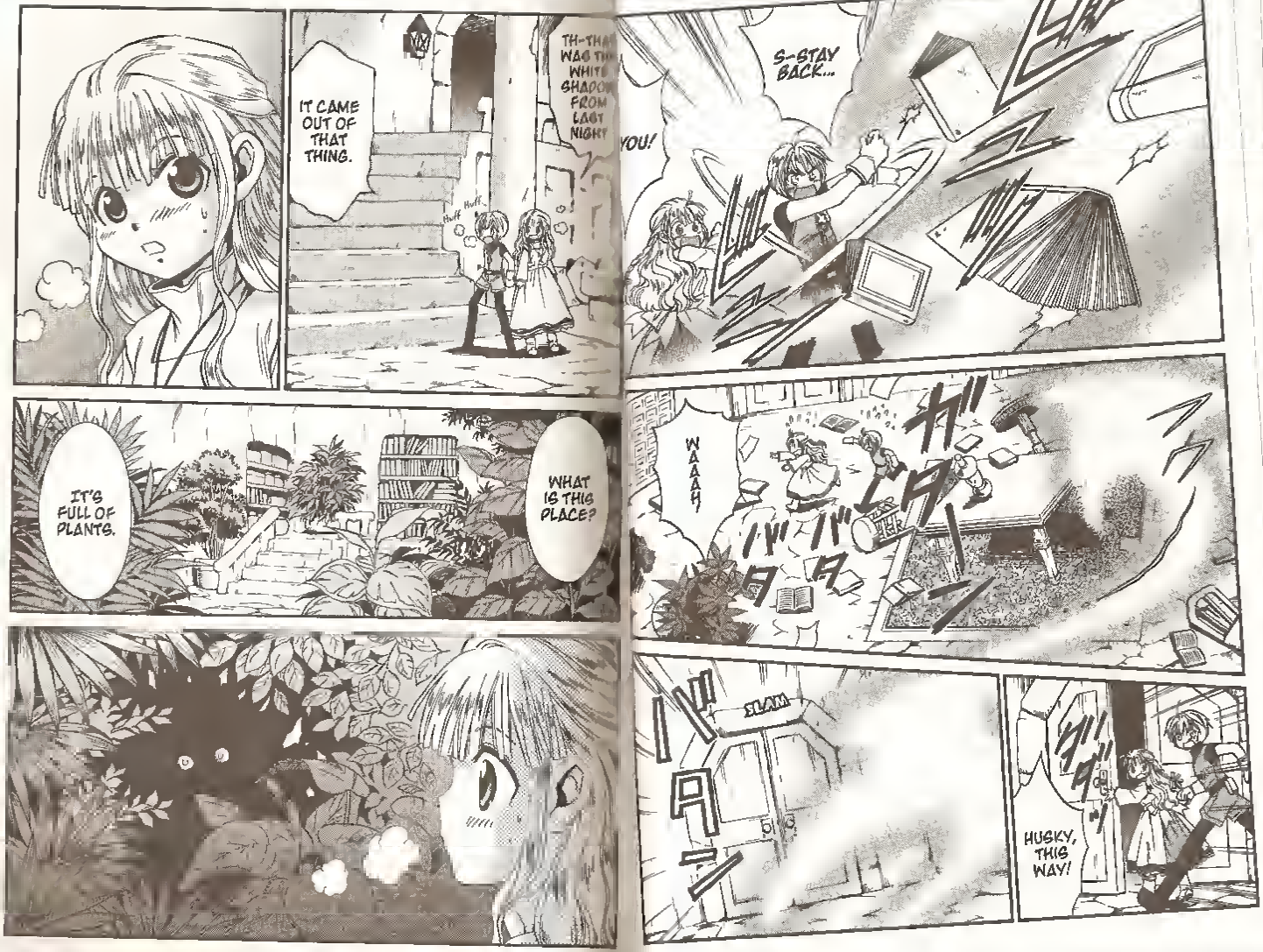
Chapter 53
My Anima

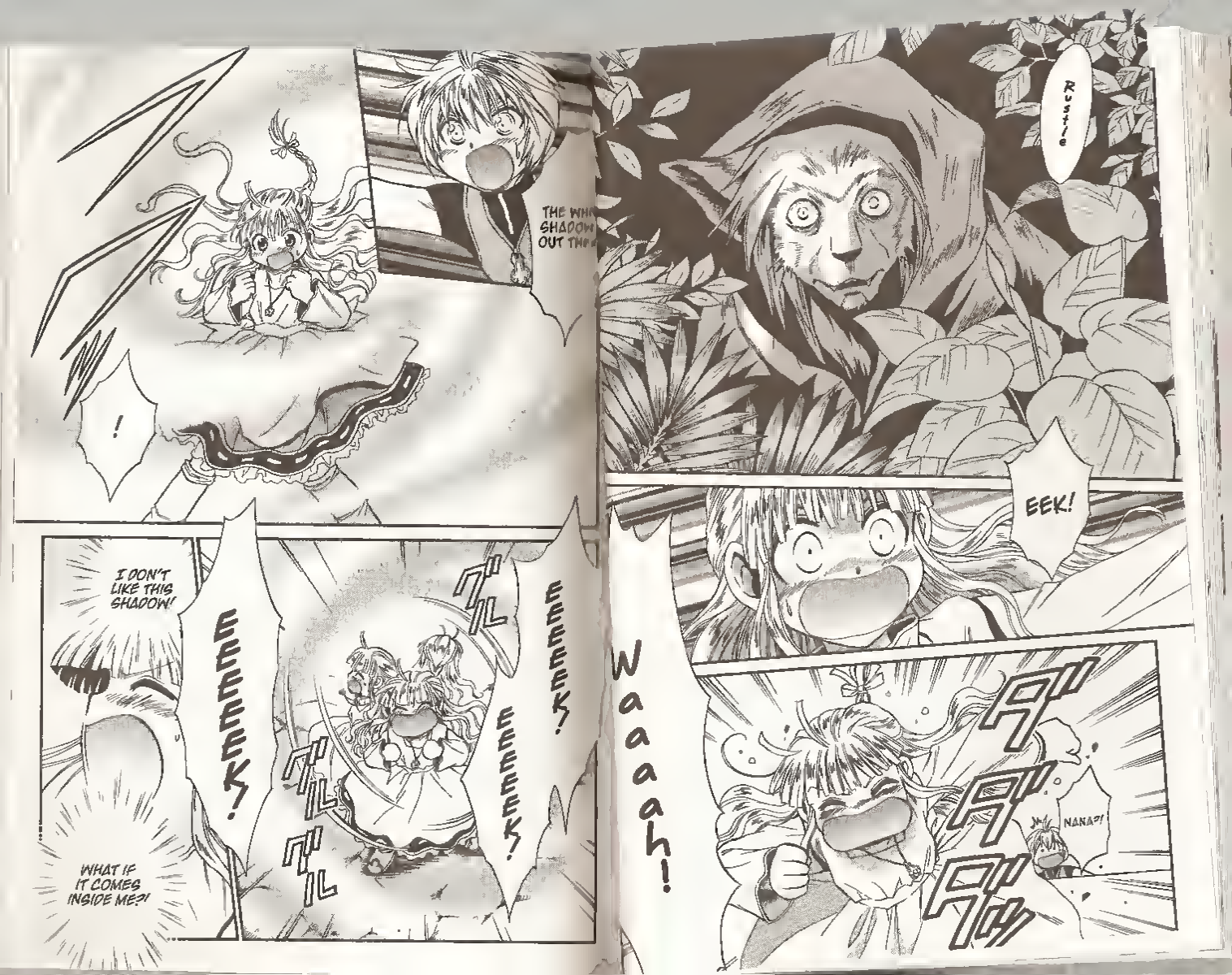


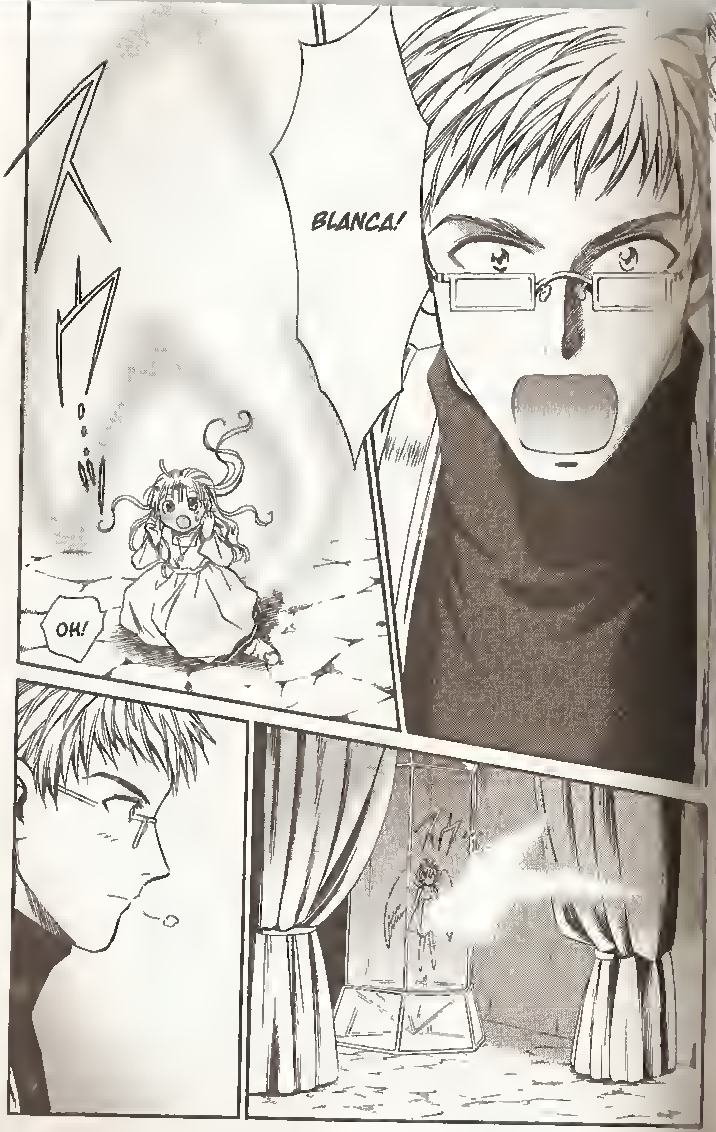
She's hanging tough and won't change her mind.


A-A WHITE ANGEL?
IS SHE A REAL ANGEL?

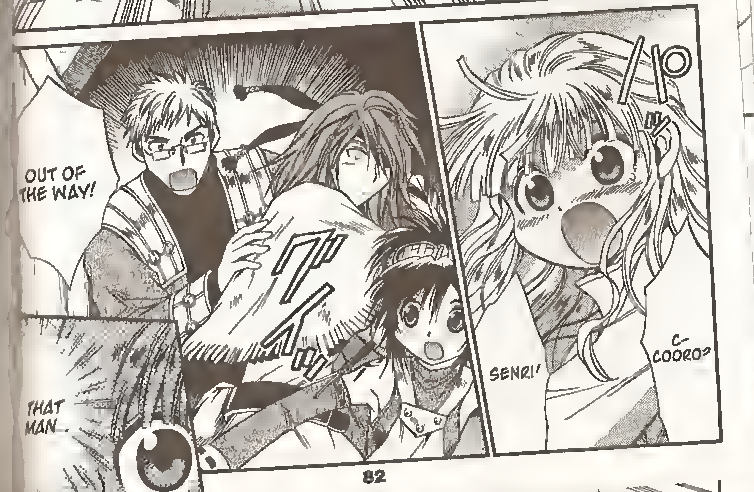

IS SHE A DOLL?
..?
ON'T ARE LIKE KAT.
76
!!
EH?!
JUST A--
NOOO!!
77

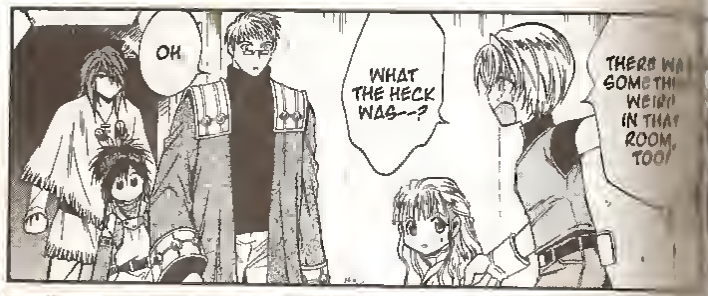

IT CAME OUT OF THAT THING.
TH-THAT WAS THE WHITE SHADOW FROM LAST NIGHT
Huff Huff
IT'S FULL OF PLANTS.
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
S-STAY BACK...
YOU!
WAAAH
SLAM
HUSKY, THIS WAY!


Rustle
EEK!
Waaaah!
NANA?!
I DON'T LIKE THIS SHADOW!
EEEEEK!
EEEEEK!
EEEEEK!
WHAT IF IT COMES INSIDE ME?!
!


BLANCA!
OH!

NANA!

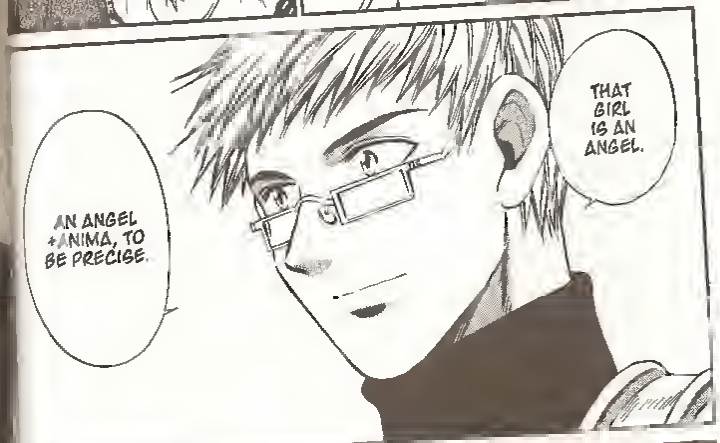

OUT OF THE WAY!
THAT MAN...
SENRI!
C-COORO?

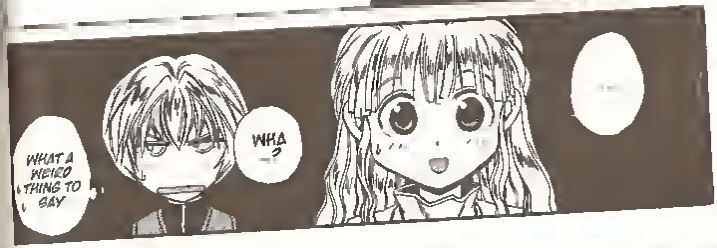

OH
WHAT THE HECK WAS--?
THERE WA SOME THI WEIRD IN THAT ROOM, TOO!

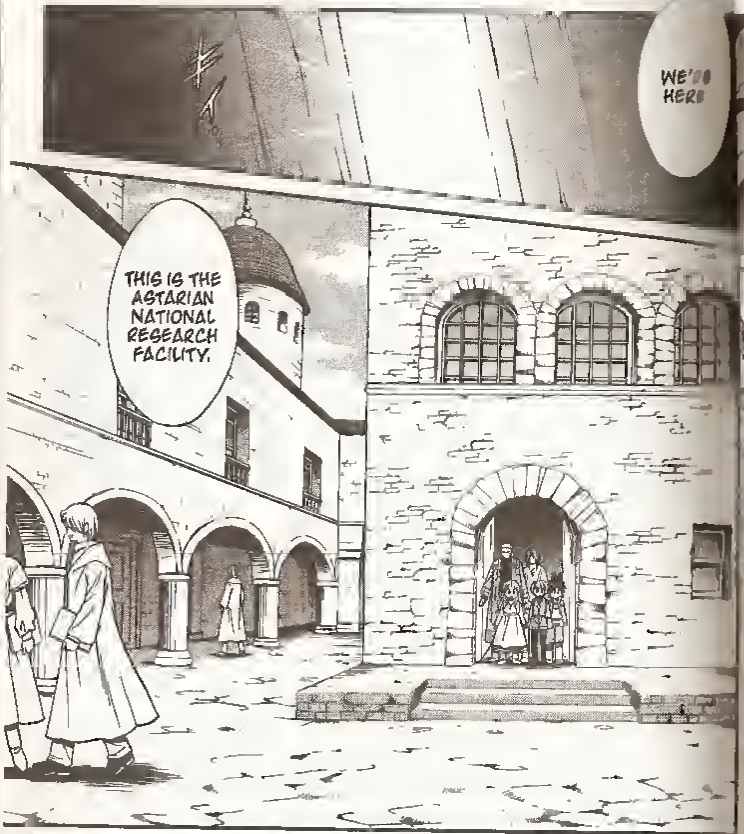
ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN
COME WITH ME.
THERE'S ANOTHER TRACK HERE.
THIS ONE LEADS TO ASTAR.
カタ-

UM...
IS BLANCA.. THAT GIRL'S NAME?

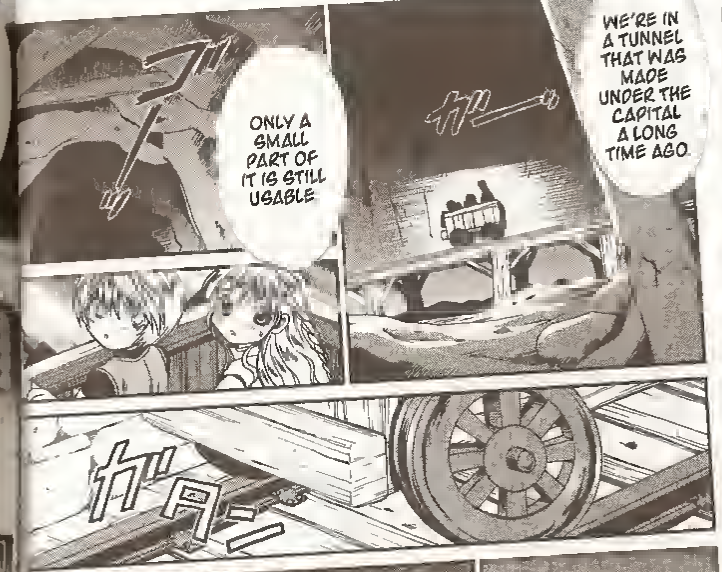
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
UHH...
Y-YES, SIR!


THAT GIRL IS AN ANGEL.
AN ANGEL +ANIMA, TO BE PRECISE.

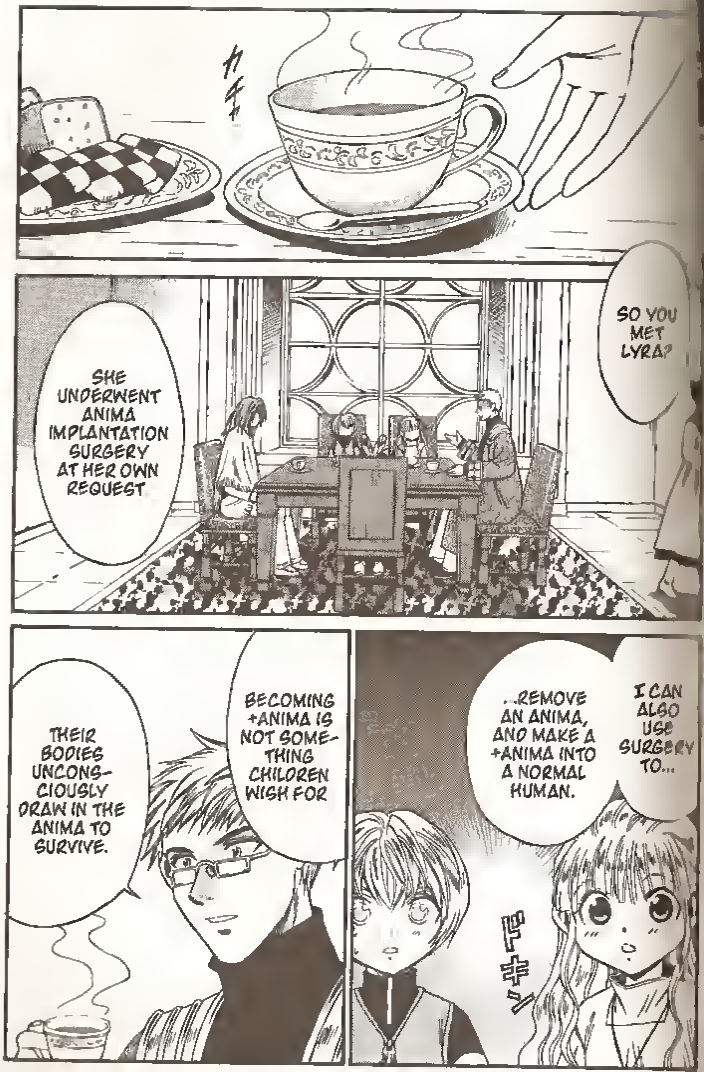

WHA-?
WHAT A WEIRD THING TO SAY


WE'RE HERE
THIS IS THE ASTARIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FACILITY.

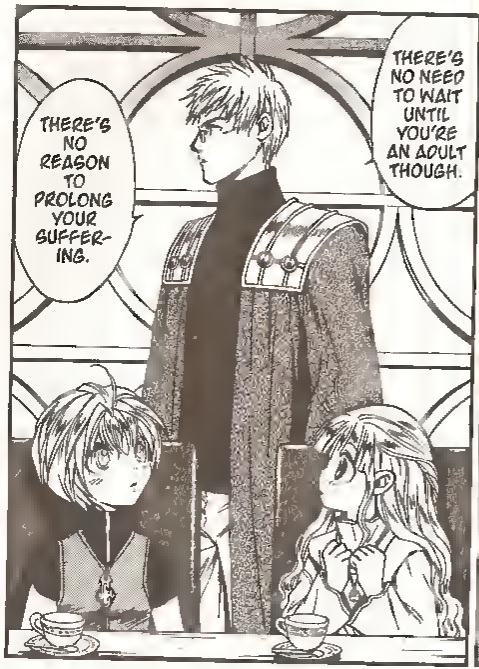
WE'RE ALREADY INSIDE ASTAR?!
Around here
WHAA..?!
THAT'S RIGHT.


ONLY A SMALL PART OF IT IS STILL USABLE
WE'RE IN A TUNNEL THAT WAS MADE UNDER THE CAPITAL A LONG TIME AGO.
ガラン

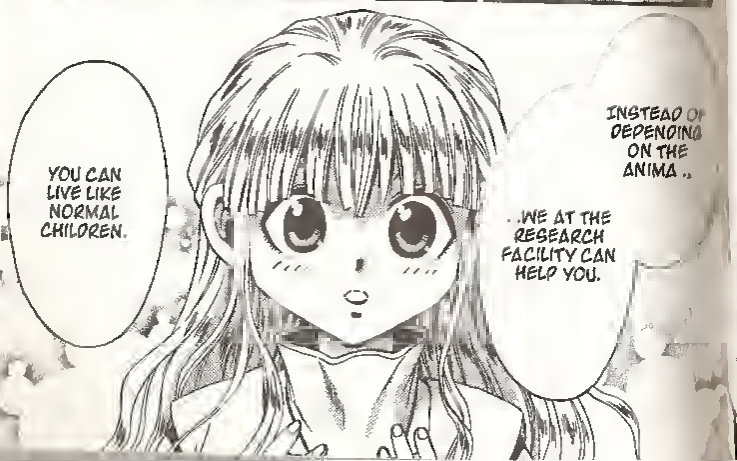
CLONG
CLONG
CLONG

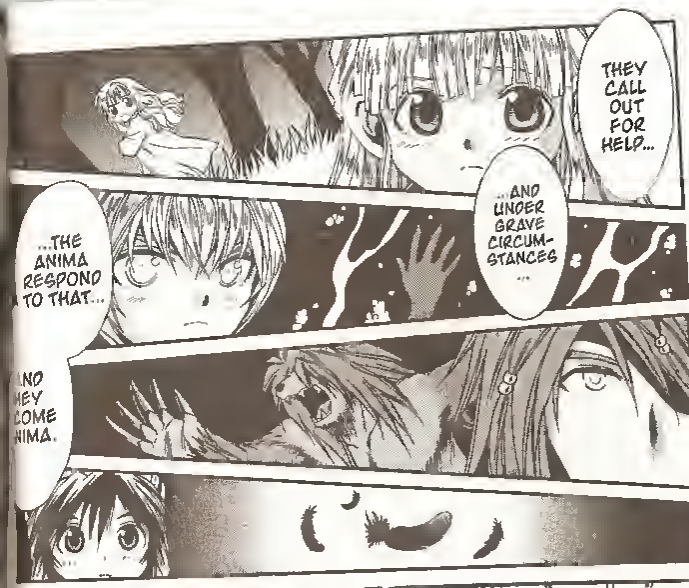

カチャ
SO YOU MET LYRA?
SHE UNDERWENT ANIMA IMPLANTATION SURGERY AT HER OWN REQUEST.
THEIR BODIES UNCONSCIOUSLY DRAW IN THE ANIMA TO SURVIVE.
BECOMING +ANIMA IS NOT SOMETHING CHILDREN WISH FOR
I CAN ALSO USE SURGERY TO...
...REMOVE AN ANIMA, AND MAKE A +ANIMA INTO A NORMAL HUMAN.
ピトッ

8
HUH?!
YOU'RE--
AAHH...
IT'S HER.
OH!
MARCA, WOULD YOU MAKE US SOME TEA?
YES SIR.
SO THAT'S WHY I FELT LIKE I'D MET HER BEFORE.
THE LADY THAT GAVE US APPLES.
YOU WORK AT THIS RESEARCH FACILITY?

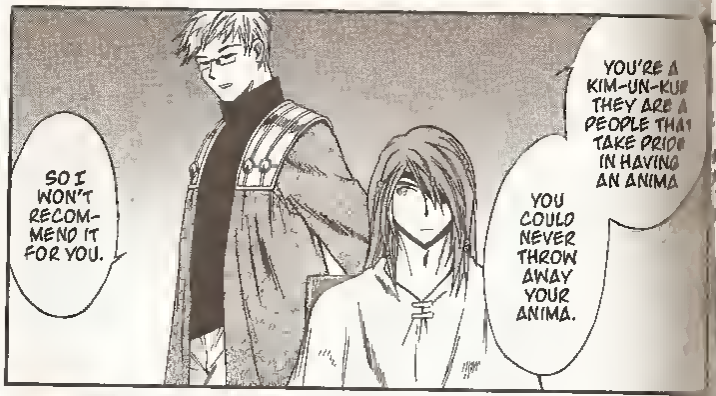

THERE'S NO REASON TO PROLONG YOUR SUFFER-ING.
THERE'S NO NEED TO WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE AN ADULT THOUGH.

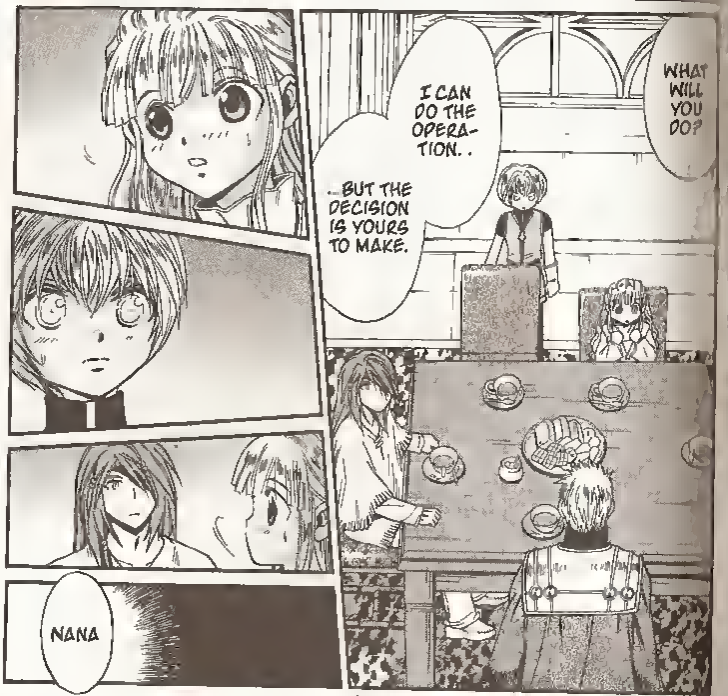
ANIMA OF TEN DISAPPEAR WHEN THE CHIL REACHE ADULTHOOD
IT WOULD SEEM THAT ONCE THE ANIMA'S HELP IS NO LONGER NEEDED IT LEAVES THE BODY.

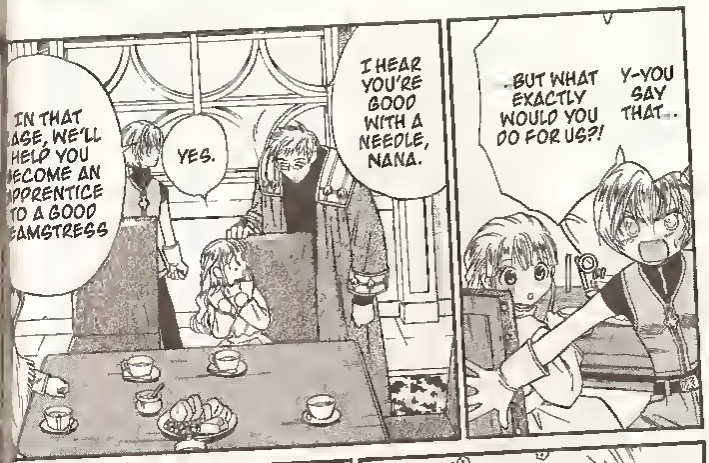

YOU CAN LIVE LIKE NORMAL CHILDREN.
INSTEAD OF DEPENDING ON THE ANIMA ..
..WE AT THE RESEARCH FACILITY CAN HELP YOU.

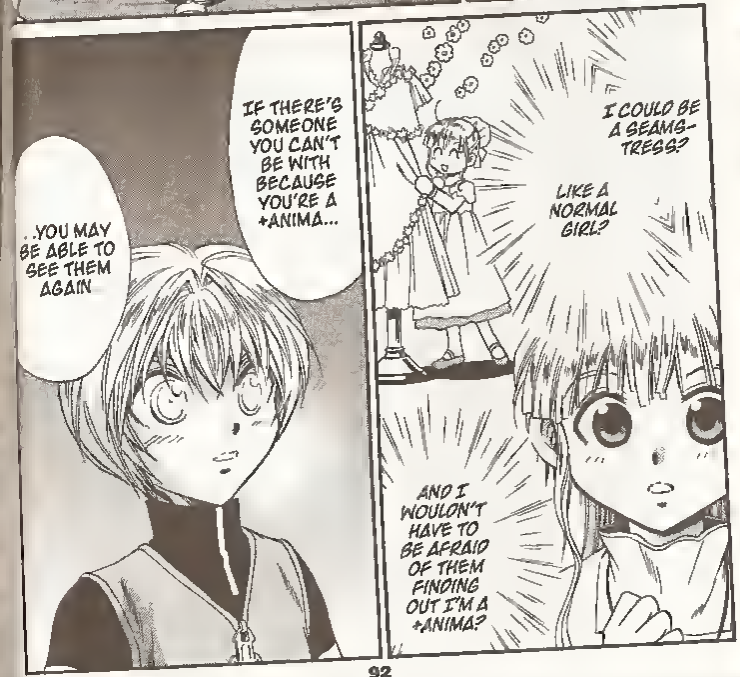

THEY CALL OUT FOR HELP...
..AND UNDER GRAVE CIRCUM-STANCES ...
...THE ANIMA RESPOND TO THAT...
NO HEY COME NIMA.

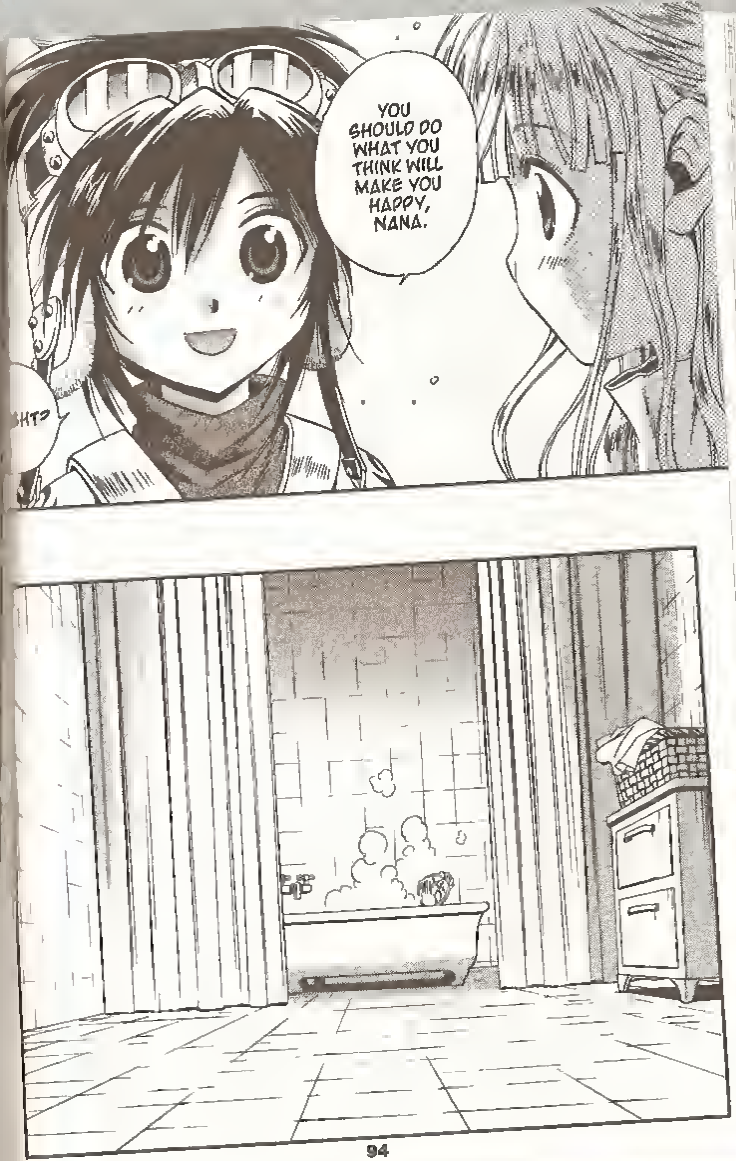
THE ANIMA MARKING IS A SCAR.
BUT..
..I CAN REMOVE IT WITH SURGERY.
OH!
PLUG
...

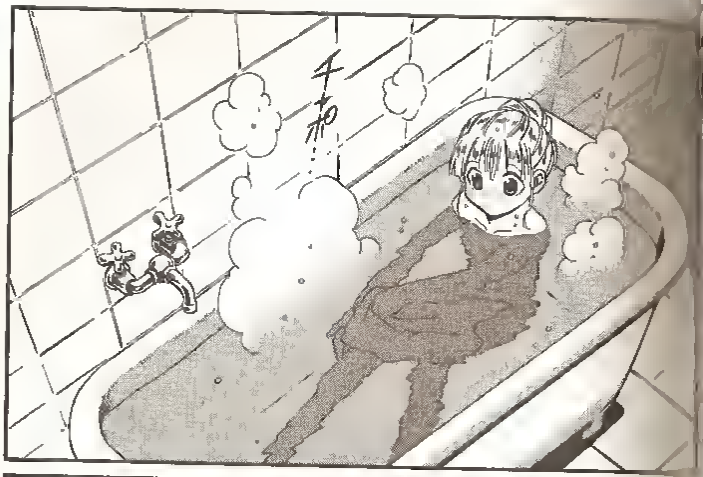

SO I WON'T RECOMMEND IT FOR YOU.
YOU'RE A KIM-UN-KU THEY ARE A PEOPLE THAT TAKE PRIDE IN HAVING AN ANIMA
YOU COULD NEVER THROW AWAY YOUR ANIMA.

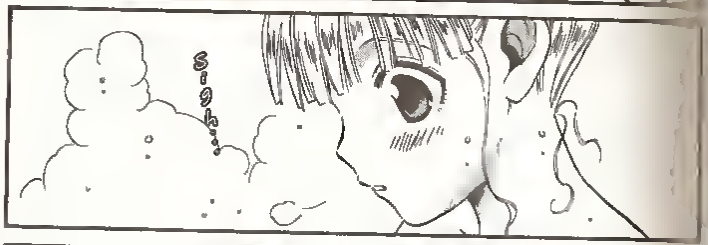

WHAT WILL YOU DO?
I CAN DO THE OPERATION. .
..BUT THE DECISION IS YOURS TO MAKE.
NANA


IN THAT CASE, WE'LL HELP YOU BECOME AN APPRENTICE TO A GOOD SEAMSTRESS
YES.
I HEAR YOU'RE GOOD WITH A NEEDLE, NANA.
..BUT WHAT EXACTLY WOULD YOU DO FOR US?!
Y-YOU SAY THAT..

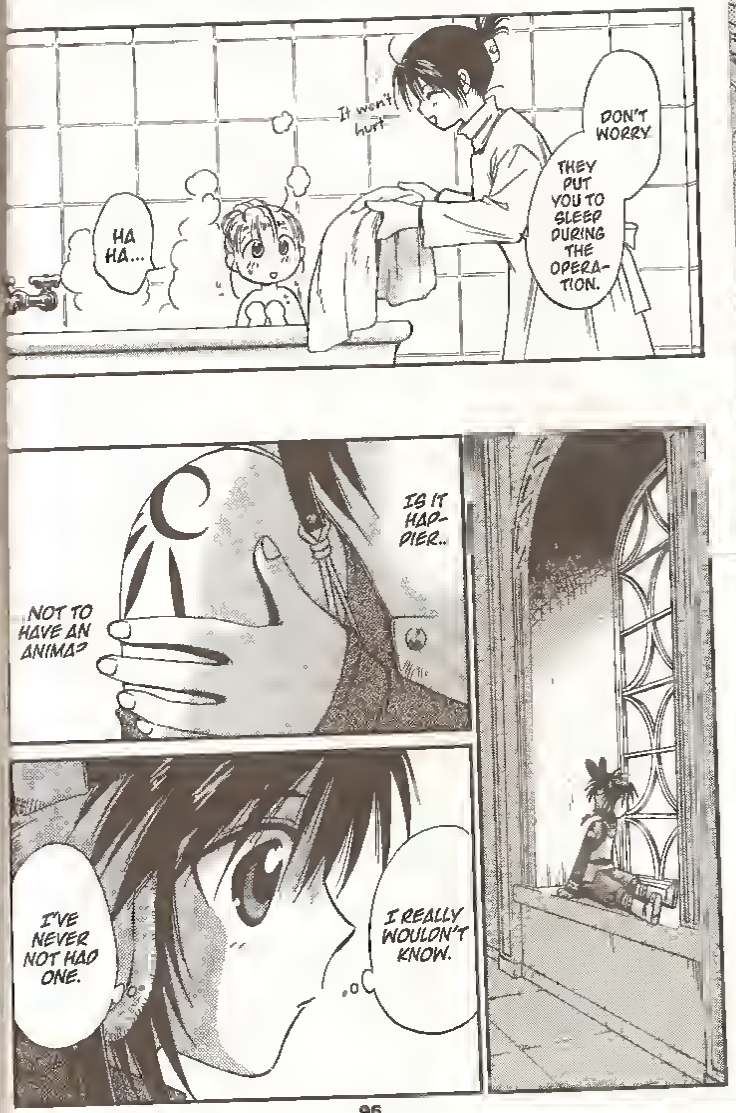

. .YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SEE THEM AGAIN
IF THERE'S SOMEONE YOU CAN'T BE WITH BECAUSE YOU'RE A +ANIMA...
I COULD BE A SEAMSTRESS?
LIKE A NORMAL GIRL?
AND I WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF THEM FINDING OUT I'M A +ANIMA?

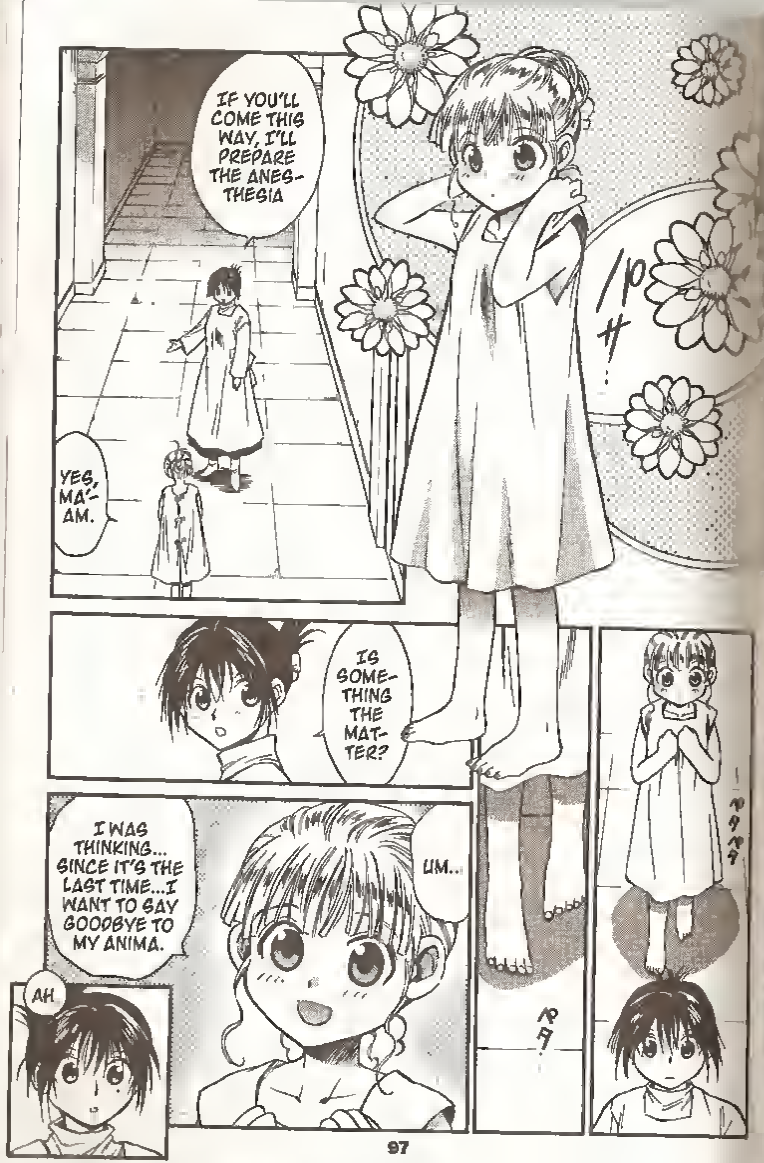

YOU SHOULD DO WHAT YOU THINK WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY, NANA.
HT?

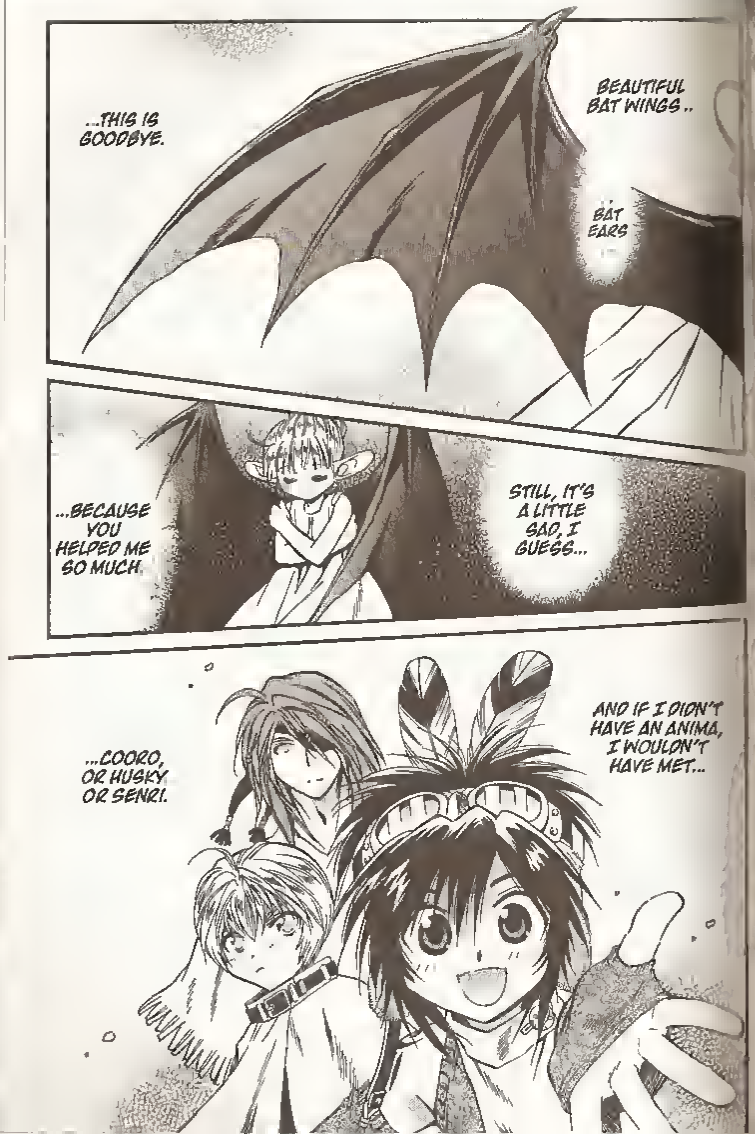



Sigh...

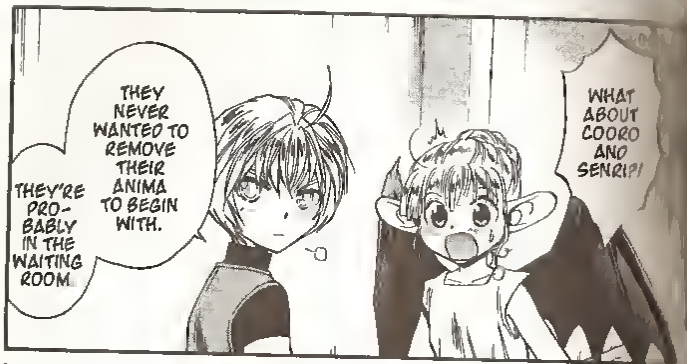
OH!
Y-YES, MA'-AM!
WHEN YOU'RE ALL CLEAN, PUT ON THIS SURGICAL GOWN, OKAY?
HOW'S THE WATER?

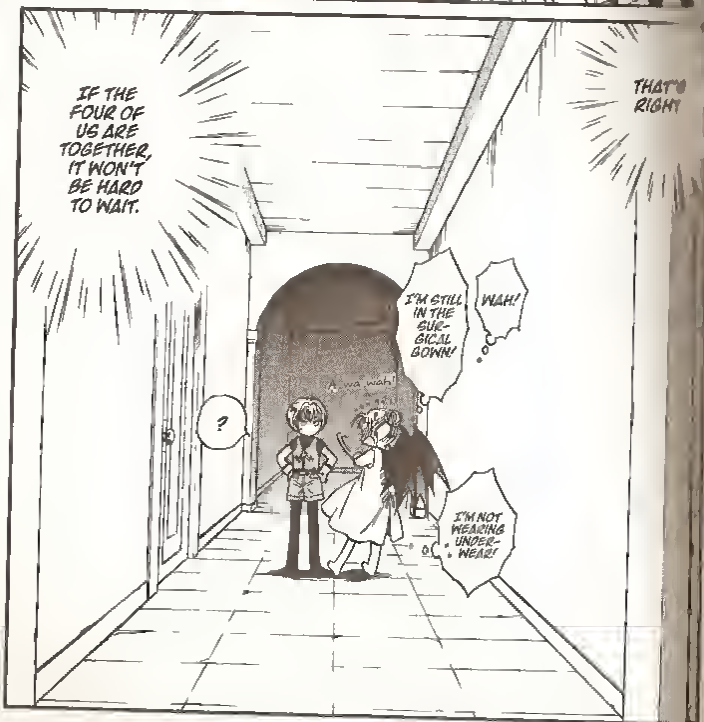

DON'T WORRY
THEY PUT YOU TO SLEEP DURING THE OPERATION.
It won't hurt
HA HA...
IS IT HAPPIER..
NOT TO HAVE AN ANIMA?
I'VE NEVER NOT HAD ONE.
I REALLY WOULDN'T KNOW.

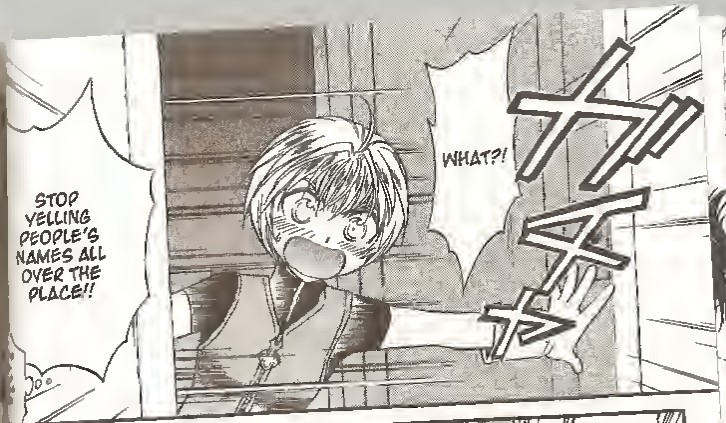

IF YOU'LL COME THIS WAY, I'LL PREPARE THE ANESTHESIA
YES, MA'AM.
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
I WAS THINKING... SINCE IT'S THE LAST TIME...I WANT TO SAY GOODBYE TO MY ANIMA.
UM..
AH


...THIS IS GOODBYE.
BEAUTIFUL BAT WINGS..
BAT EARS
...BECAUSE YOU HELPED ME SO MUCH.
STILL, IT'S A LITTLE SAD, I GUESS...
...COORO, OR HUSKY OR SENRI.
AND IF I DIDN'T HAVE AN ANIMA, I WOULDN'T HAVE MET..

I MEAN, IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?
EVEN WITH AN ANIMA, I'M HAPPY.
NO. I'M HAPPY BECAUSE I HAVE AN ANIMA.
NANA?
AH...
I'M SURE IT WON'T BE HARD TO WAIT.
IF MY ANIMA IS GOING TO DISAPPEAR WHEN I GROW UP, I'LL WAIT UNTIL THEN
HUSKY!
HUSKYYY!!
DID HE ALREADY HAVE THE SURGERY?!
キョロ
キョロ
OH NO...
WHAT ABOUT HUSKY?!
HUH?!
I'M NOT GONNA HAVE THE SURGERY!
I'M FINE LIKE THIS!

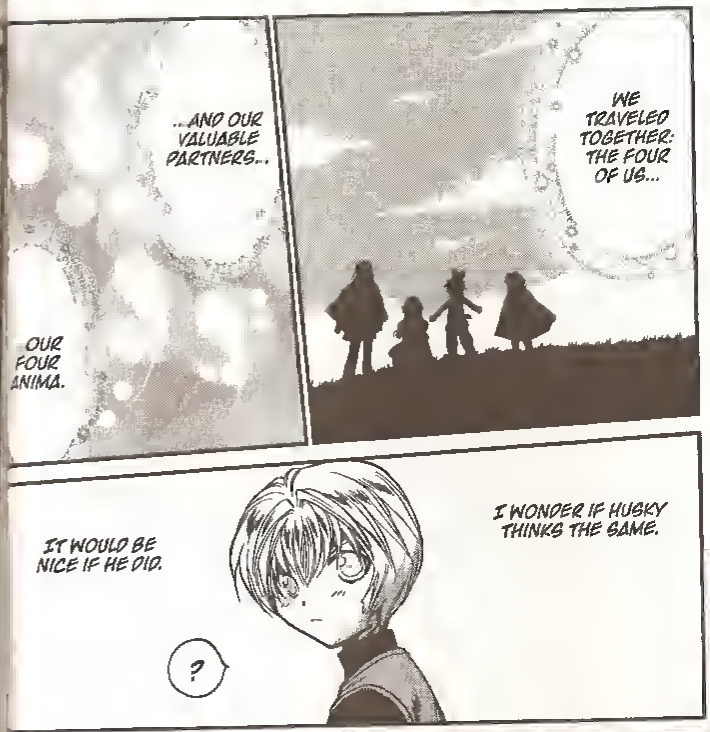

WHAT ABOUT COORO AND SENRI?!
THEY NEVER WANTED TO REMOVE THEIR ANIMA TO BEGIN WITH.
THEY'RE PROBABLY IN THE WAITING ROOM.

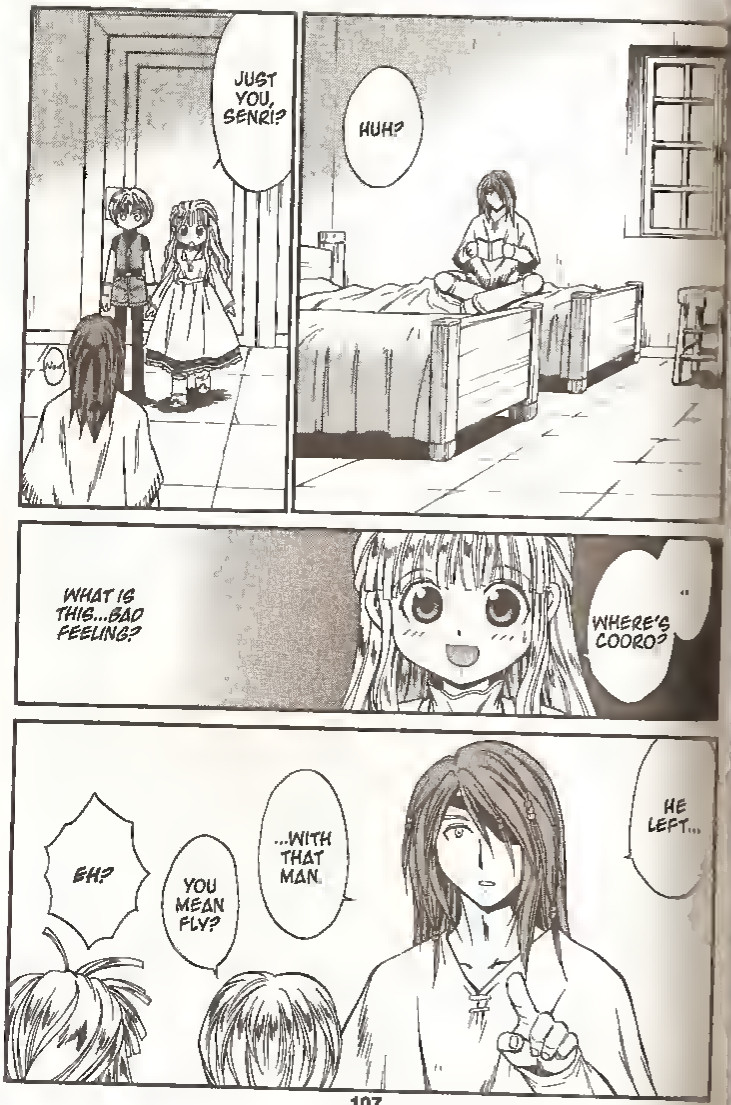

IF THE FOUR OF US ARE TOGETHER, IT WON'T BE HARD TO WAIT.
THAT'S RIGHT
I'M STILL IN THE SURGICAL GOWN!
WAH!
?
I'M NOT WEARING UNDERWEAR!

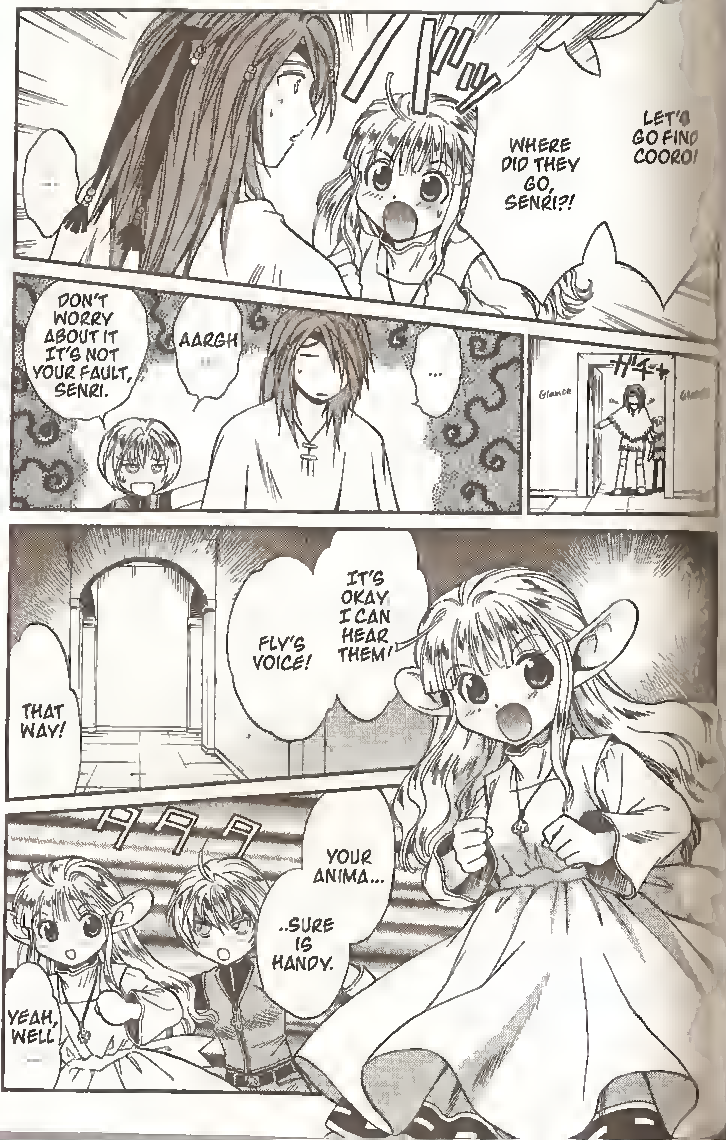

STOP YELLING PEOPLE'S NAMES ALL OVER THE PLACE!!
WHAT?!

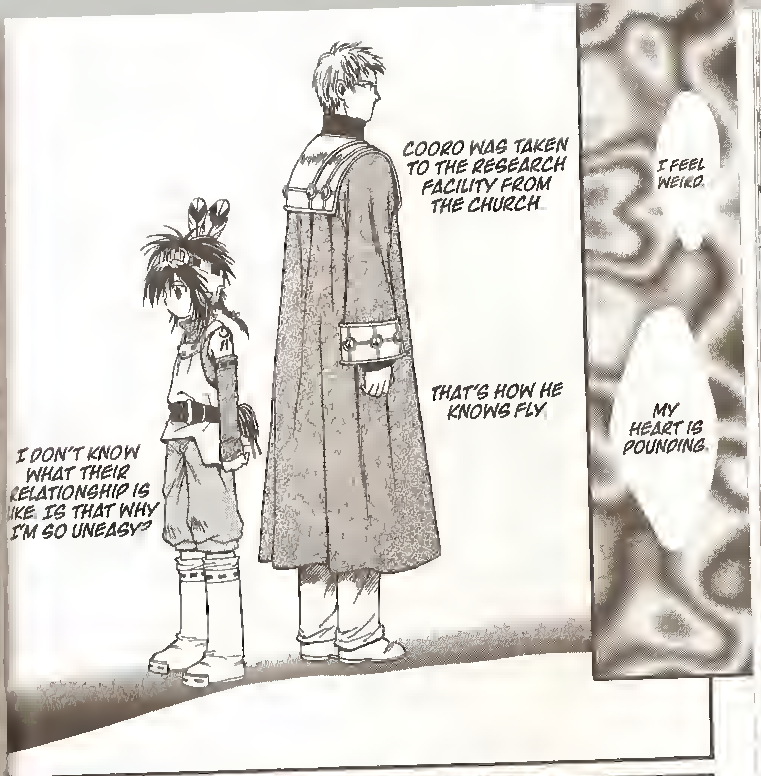
WHAT ABOUT YOU, HUSKY?!
I DIDN'T GO THROUGH WITH THE SURGERY!
HUSKY!!
I'M FINE THE WAY I AM.
I THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LITTLE, AND GAVE IT UP RIGHT AWAY
ME, EITHER
GAAH?!

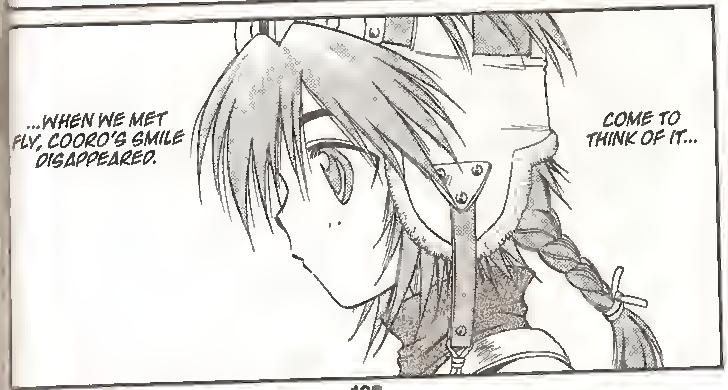
That was embarrassing.

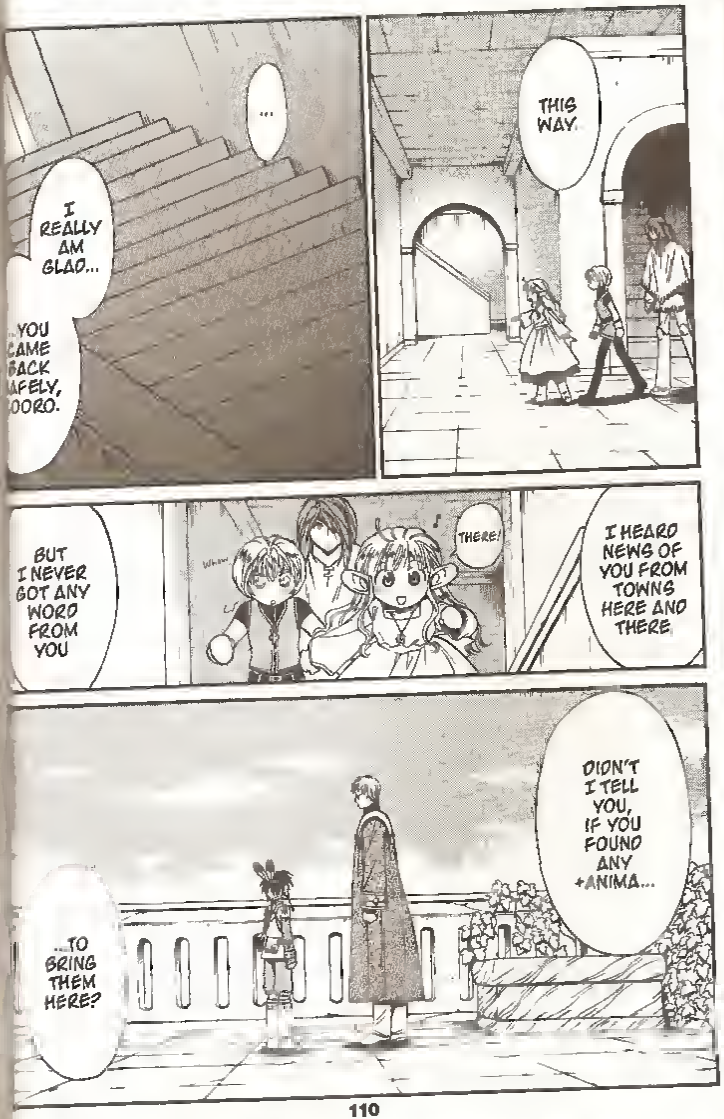

...AND OUR VALUABLE PARTNERS...
OUR FOUR ANIMA.
WE TRAVELED TOGETHER: THE FOUR OF US...
IT WOULD BE NICE IF HE DID.
?
I WONDER IF HUSKY THINKS THE SAME.
WE'RE BACK!


JUST YOU, SENRI?
HUH?
WHAT IS THIS...BAD FEELING?
WHERE'S COORO?
EH?
YOU MEAN FLY?
...WITH THAT MAN.
HE LEFT...


LET'S GO FIND COORO!
WHERE DID THEY GO, SENRI?!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, SENRI.
AARGH
...
Glance
Glance
THAT WAY!
FLY'S VOICE!
IT'S OKAY. I CAN HEAR THEM!
YEAH, WELL
YOUR ANIMA...
..SURE IS HANDY.

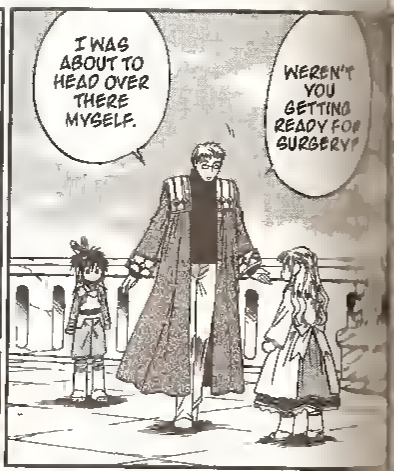

COORO WAS TAKEN TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY FROM THE CHURCH
THAT'S HOW HE KNOWS FLY.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEIR RELATIONSHIP IS LIKE. IS THAT WHY I'M SO UNEASY?
I FEEL WEIRD.
MY HEART IS POUNDING.

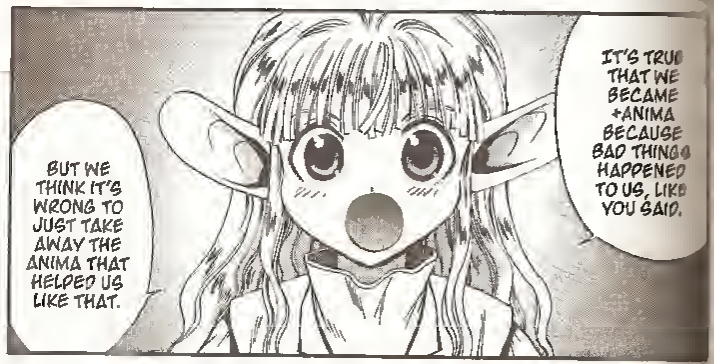

...WHEN WE MET FLY, COORO'S SMILE DISAPPEARED.
COME TO THINK OF IT...

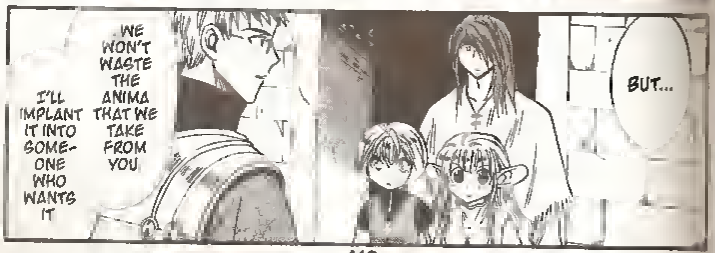

...
I REALLY AM GLAD...
...YOU CAME BACK SAFELY, COORO.
THIS WAY.
BUT I NEVER GOT ANY WORD FROM YOU
THERE!
I HEARD NEWS OF YOU FROM TOWNS HERE AND THERE.
...TO BRING THEM HERE?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU, IF YOU FOUND ANY +ANIMA...

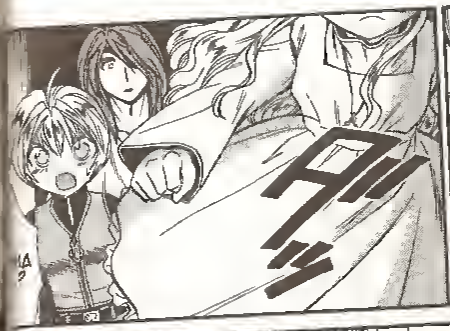
BUT YOU WENT OFF ON YOUR OWN AS FAR AS SAILAND.
THAT'S WHY I GAVE YOU THE JOB OF FINDING +ANIMA, COORO.
YOU CAN SENSE AN ANIMA'S PRESENCE
I FORGOT.
I'M SORRY
AH!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR OTHER +ANIMA.
COME WITH ME!

WE GAVE UP ON THE SURGERY!
WE DON'T WANT TO THROW AWAY OUR ANIMA!

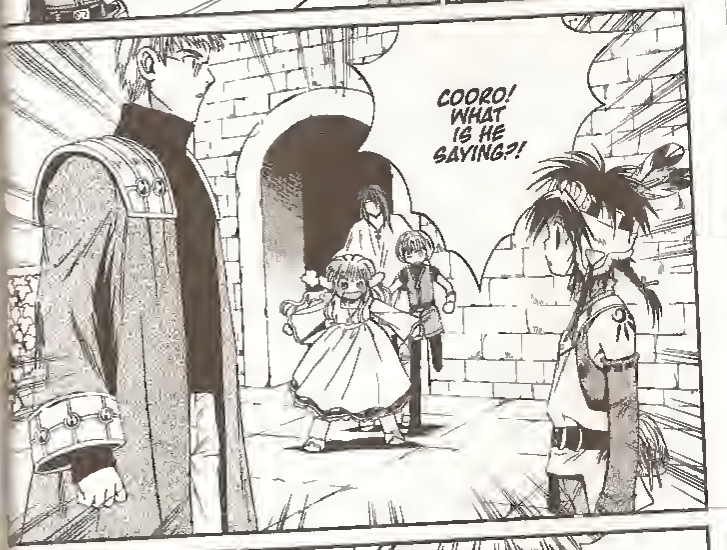

I WAS ABOUT TO HEAD OVER THERE MYSELF.
WEREN'T YOU GETTING READY FOR SURGERY?

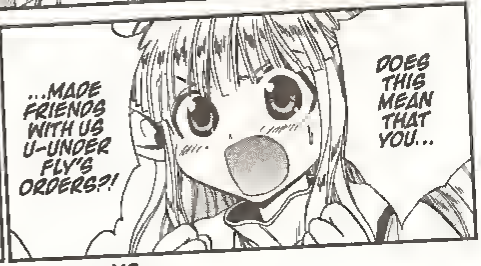

BUT WE THINK IT'S WRONG TO JUST TAKE AWAY THE ANIMA THAT HELPED US LIKE THAT.
IT'S TRUE THAT WE BECAME +ANIMA BECAUSE BAD THINGS HAPPENED TO US, LIKE YOU SAID.

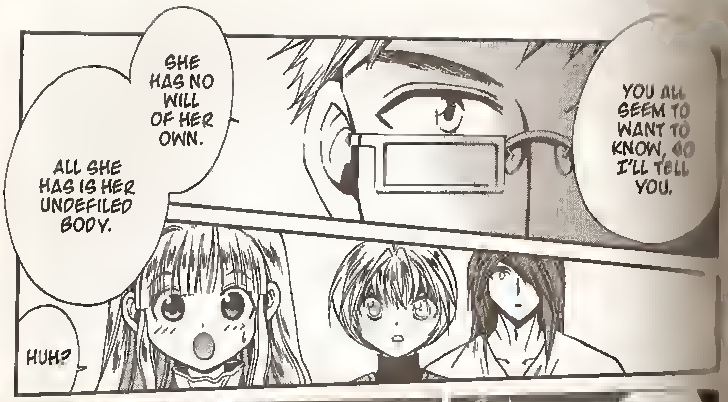

I'LL IMPLANT IT INTO SOMEONE WHO WANTS IT
WE WON'T WASTE THE ANIMA THAT WE TAKE FROM YOU
BUT...

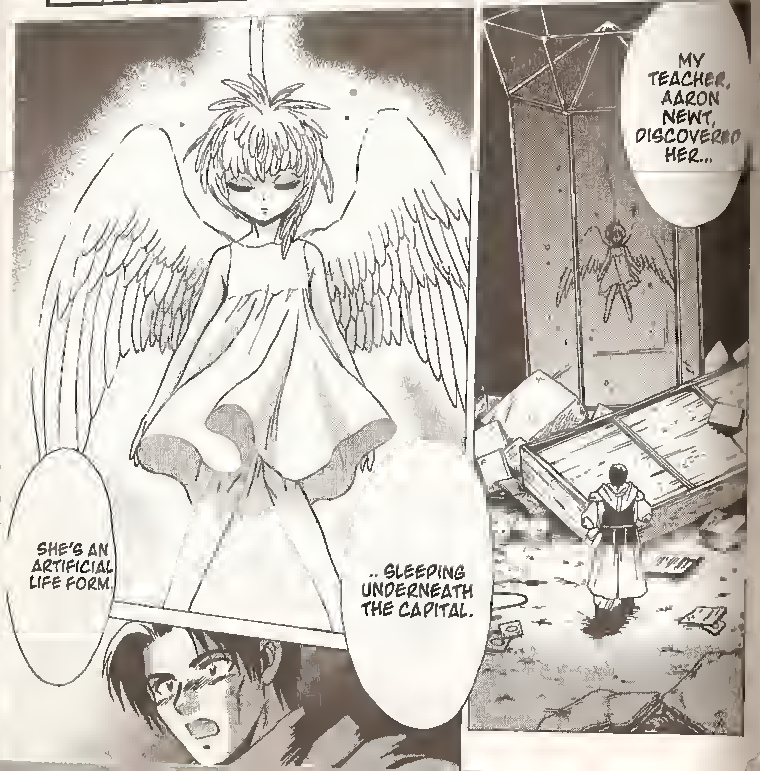

AH

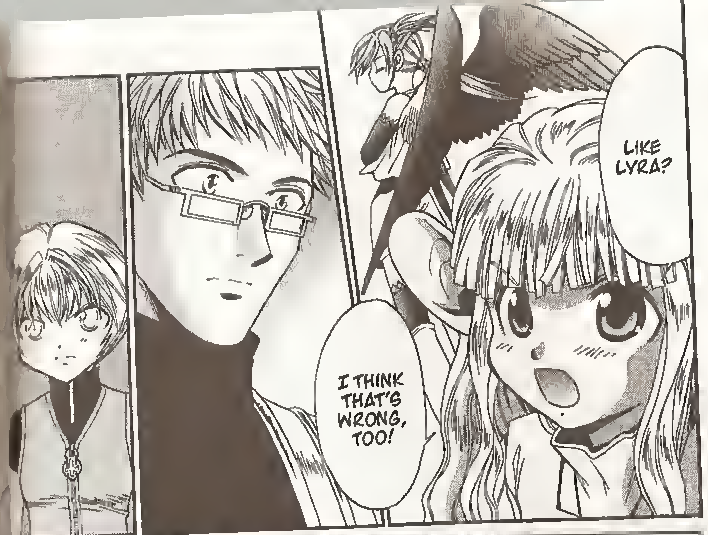
IS THAT...
...WHAT HE MEANT?

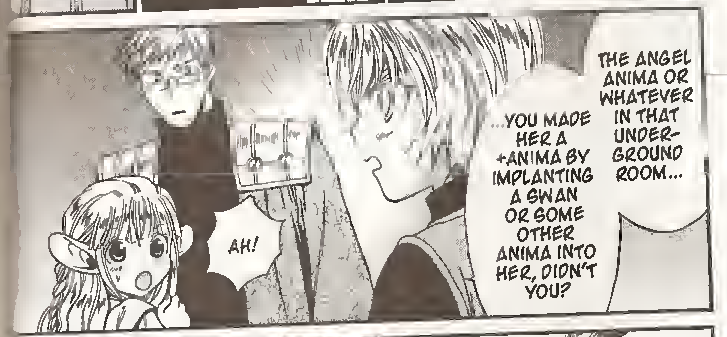

COORO! WHAT IS HE SAYING?!

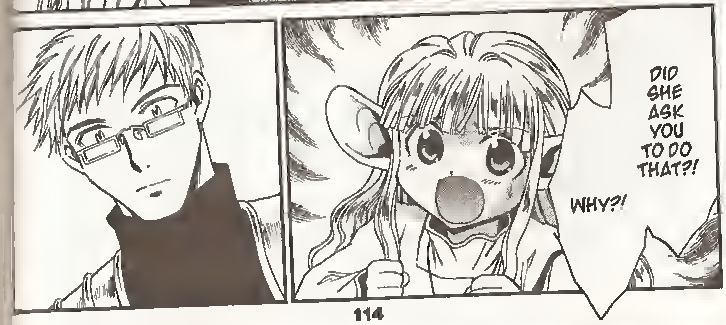

...MADE FRIENDS WITH US U-UNDER FLY'S ORDERS?!
DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU...

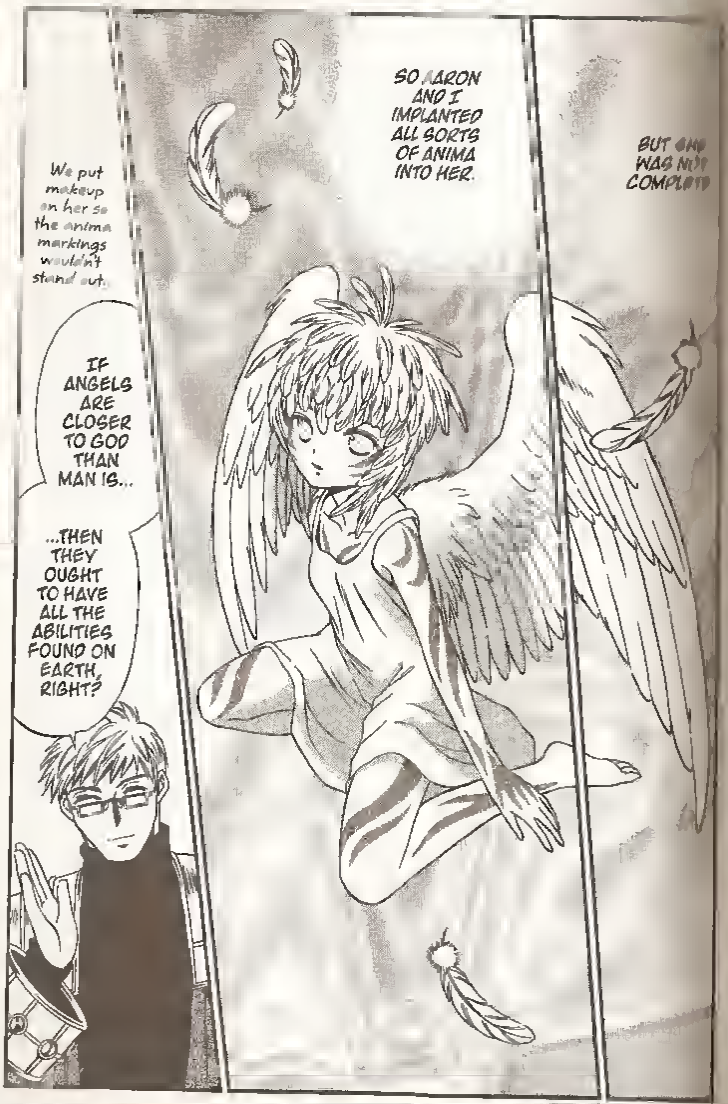

SHE HAS NO WILL OF HER OWN.
ALL SHE HAS IS HER UNDEFILED BODY.
HUH?
YOU ALL SEEM TO WANT TO KNOW, SO I'LL TELL YOU.

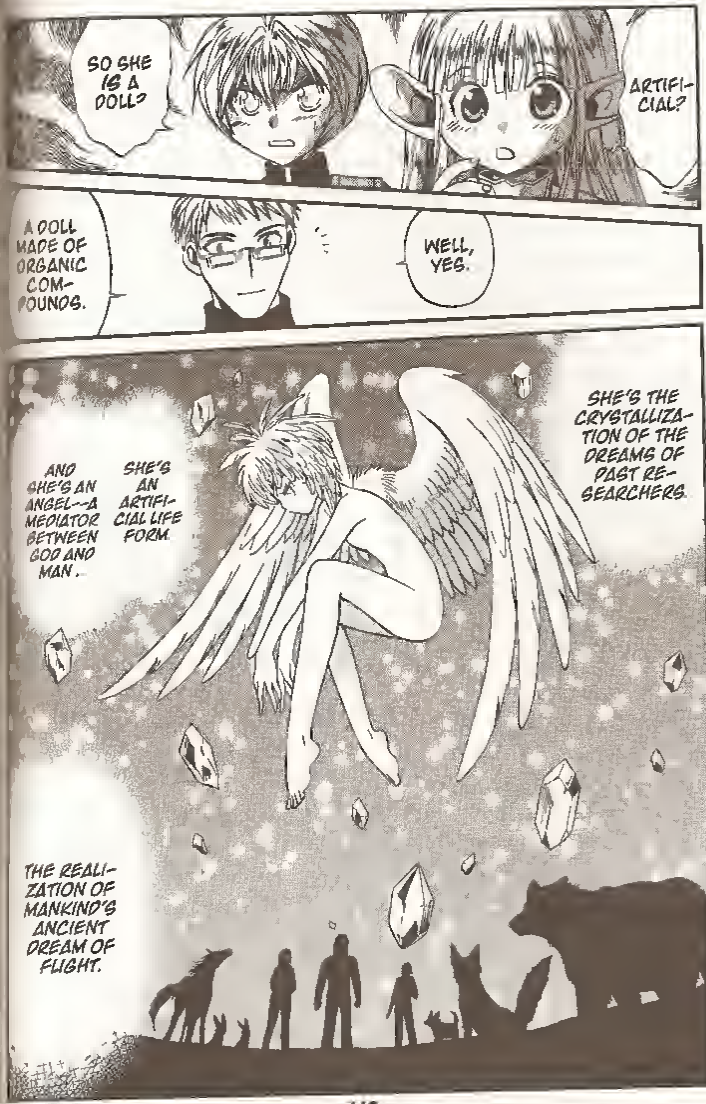

SHE'S AN ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORM.
.. SLEEPING UNDERNEATH THE CAPITAL.
MY TEACHER, AARON NEWT, DISCOVERED HER...

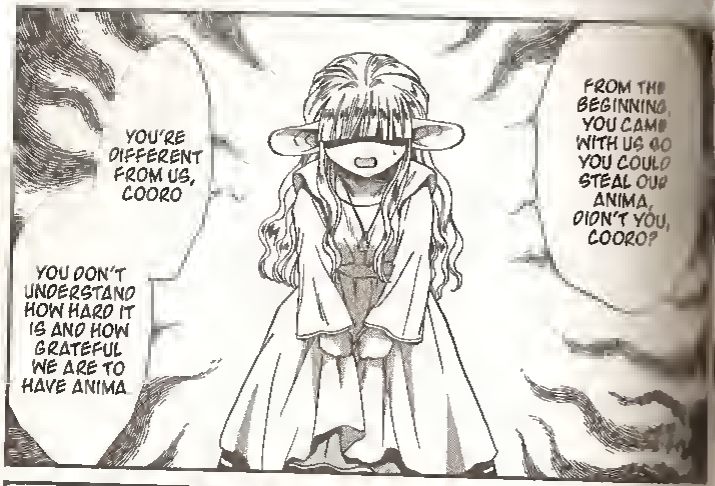

LIKE LYRA?
I THINK THAT'S WRONG, TOO!

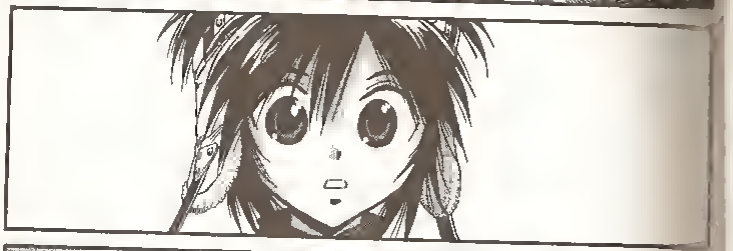

AH!
...YOU MADE HER A +ANIMA BY IMPLANTING A SWAN OR SOME OTHER ANIMA INTO HER, DIDN'T YOU?
THE ANGEL ANIMA OR WHATEVER IN THAT UNDERGROUND ROOM...


DID SHE ASK YOU TO DO THAT?!
WHY?!

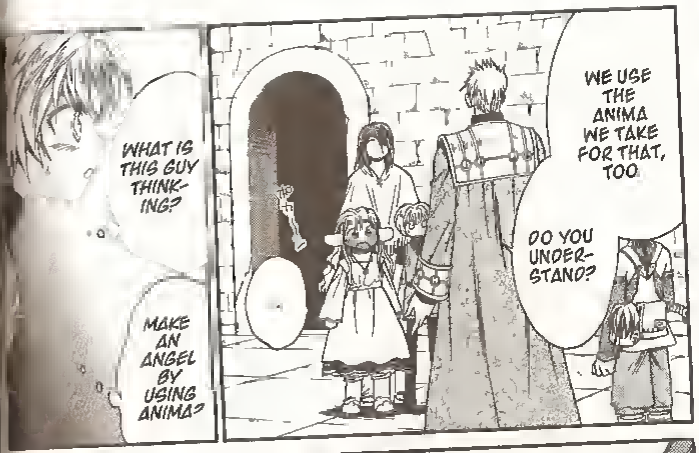

We put makeup on her so the anima markings wouldn't stand out.
IF ANGELS ARE CLOSER TO GOD THAN MAN IS...
...THEN THEY OUGHT TO HAVE ALL THE ABILITIES FOUND ON EARTH, RIGHT?
SO AARON AND I IMPLANTED ALL SORTS OF ANIMA INTO HER.
BUT SHE WAS NOT COMPLETE

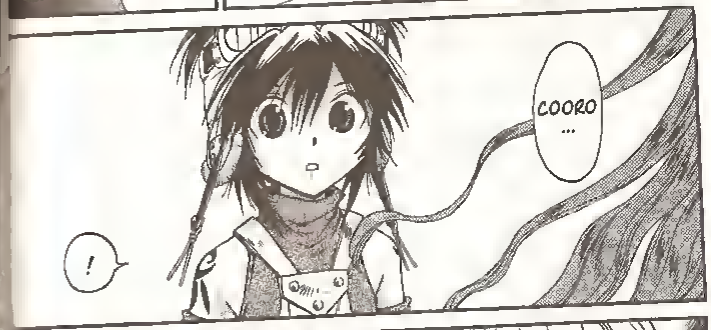

SO SHE IS A DOLL?
ARTIFICIAL?
A DOLL MADE OF ORGANIC COMPOUNDS.
WELL, YES.
SHE'S THE CRYSTALLIZATION OF THE DREAMS OF PAST RESEARCHERS.
AND SHE'S AN ANGEL--A MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MAN.
SHE'S AN ARTIFICIAL LIFE FORM.
THE REALIZATION OF MANKIND'S ANCIENT DREAM OF FLIGHT.

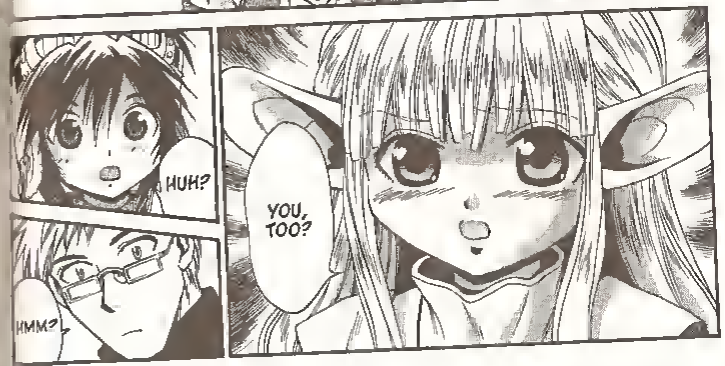

YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM US, COORO
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW HARD IT IS AND HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE TO HAVE ANIMA
FROM THE BEGINNING, YOU CAME WITH US SO YOU COULD STEAL OUR ANIMA, DIDN'T YOU, COORO?

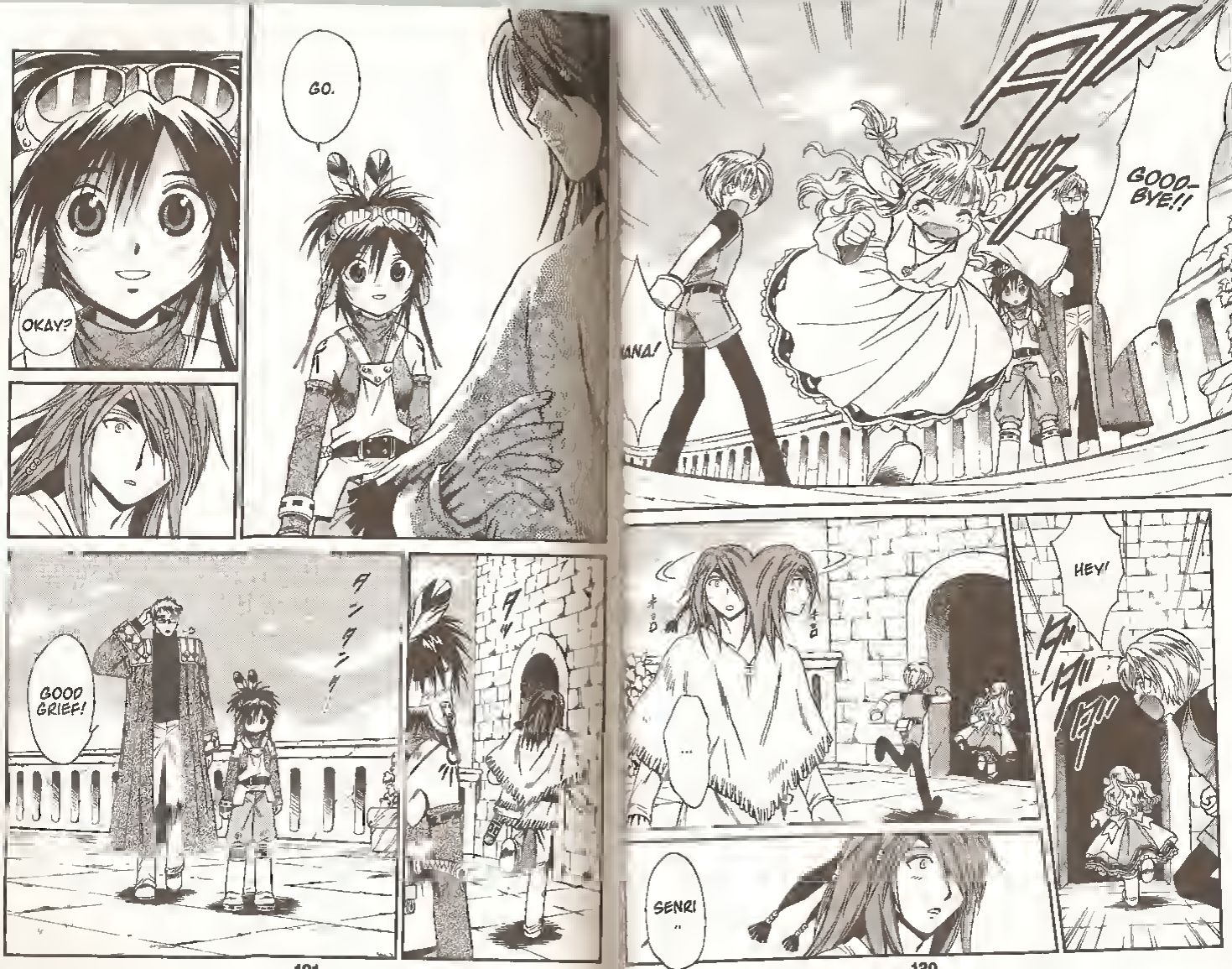


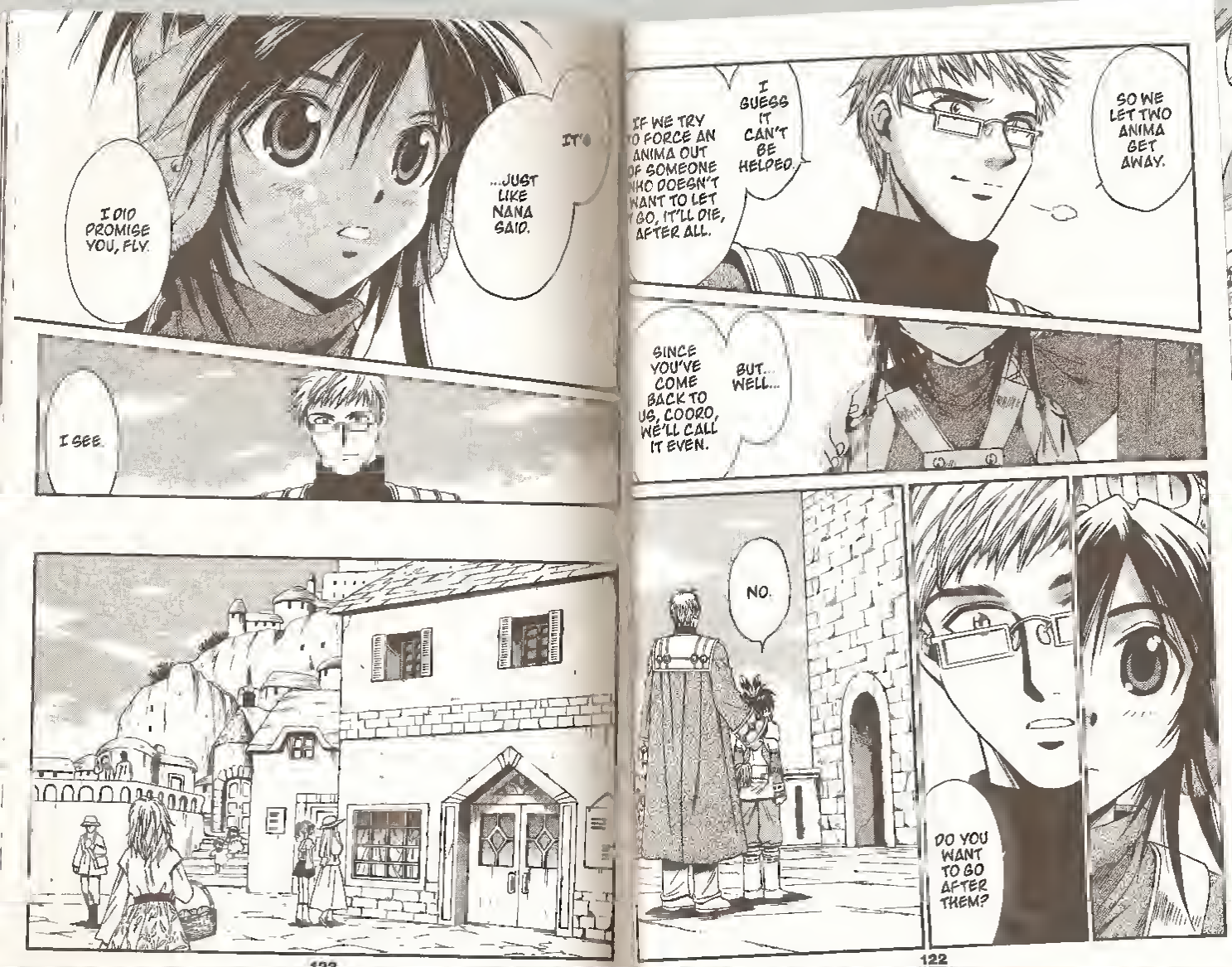
YOU'RE A +ANIMA LIKE WE ARE...
. SO WE THOUGHT YOU WERE OUR FRIEND.


WHAT IS THIS GUY THINKING?
MAKE AN ANGEL BY USING ANIMA?
WE USE THE ANIMA WE TAKE FOR THAT, TOO.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?


COORO ...
!


HUH?
HMM?
YOU, TOO?


GOOD-BYE!!
HEY!
SENRI
..
GOOD GRIEF!
OKAY?
GO.

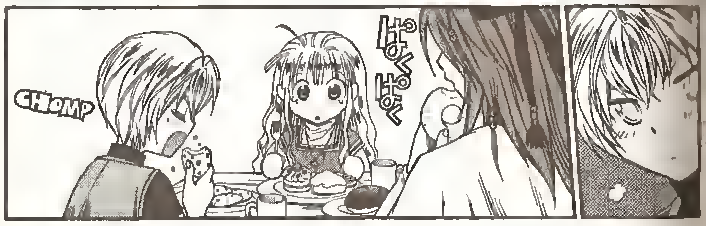

SO WE LET TWO ANIMA GET AWAY.
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
IF WE TRY TO FORCE AN ANIMA OUT OF SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T WANT TO LET GO, IT'LL DIE, AFTER ALL.
BUT... WELL...
SINCE YOU'VE COME BACK TO US, COORO, WE'LL CALL IT EVEN.
NO.
DO YOU WANT TO GO AFTER THEM?
IT'S
...JUST LIKE NANA SAID.
I DID PROMISE YOU, FLY.
I SEE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
HEY, NANA!
THIS IS NO TIME FOR CLOTHES!!
TEE HEE! ♡
OH! THAT ONE'S CUTE, TOO!
WH-WHO CARES?
I'D LIKE TO TRY THIS ON, PLEASE!

YOU WEAR THIS ONE, SENRI!!
Take that!
MMPH?!
NOW THEN, NOW THEN, NEXT ...♪
A-w-wait!
I REALLY WANT YOU TO WEAR THESE!
WE'RE IN THE ROYAL CAPITAL, ASTAR. WE NEED SOME NEW CLOTHES!
R-REALLY.
RELAX. I'M JUST PLAYING WITH YOU!
Whew

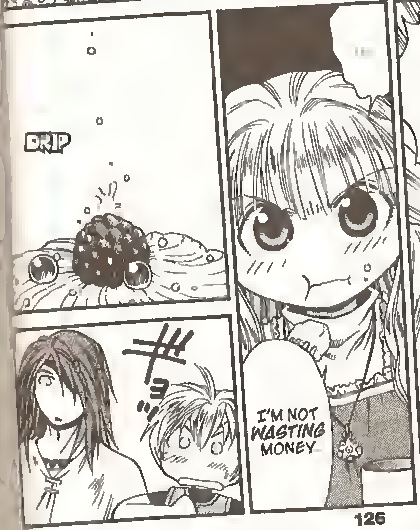
I'M SO ANGRY AND FRUSTRATED ...
...AND SAD!
I MEAN ...!

CHOMP
CHOMP
CHOMP
Hic!
Hic!


CHOMP

Gasp!
NOT SERIOUS ABOUT SAYING GOODBYE TO COORO LIKE THIS, ARE YOU?
YOU'RE ...
Whew!
SATISFIED?
Chomp
Chomp
Chomp
Chomp

どーんっ
ぽよぽよ
ぽよぽよ

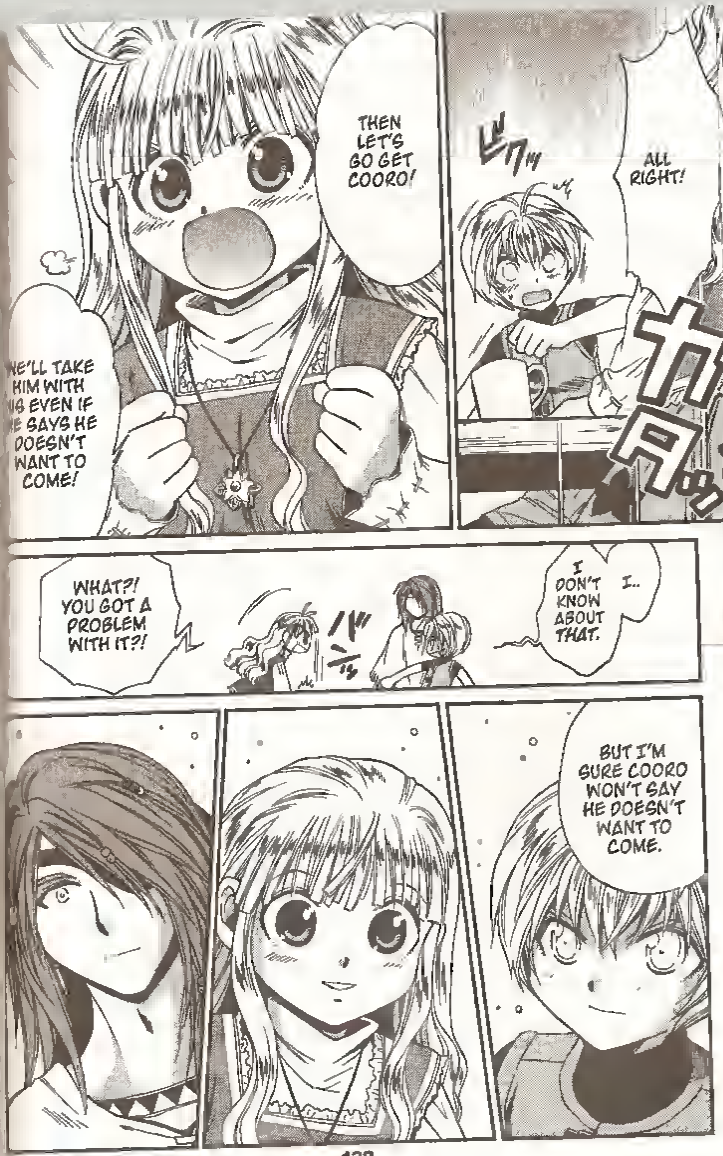

DRIP
I'M NOT WASTING MONEY.

IF YOU KEEP WASTING MONEY LIKE THIS, HOW ARE WE GONNA LIVE?!
NANA! CUT IT OUT ALREADY!!
ハニィ

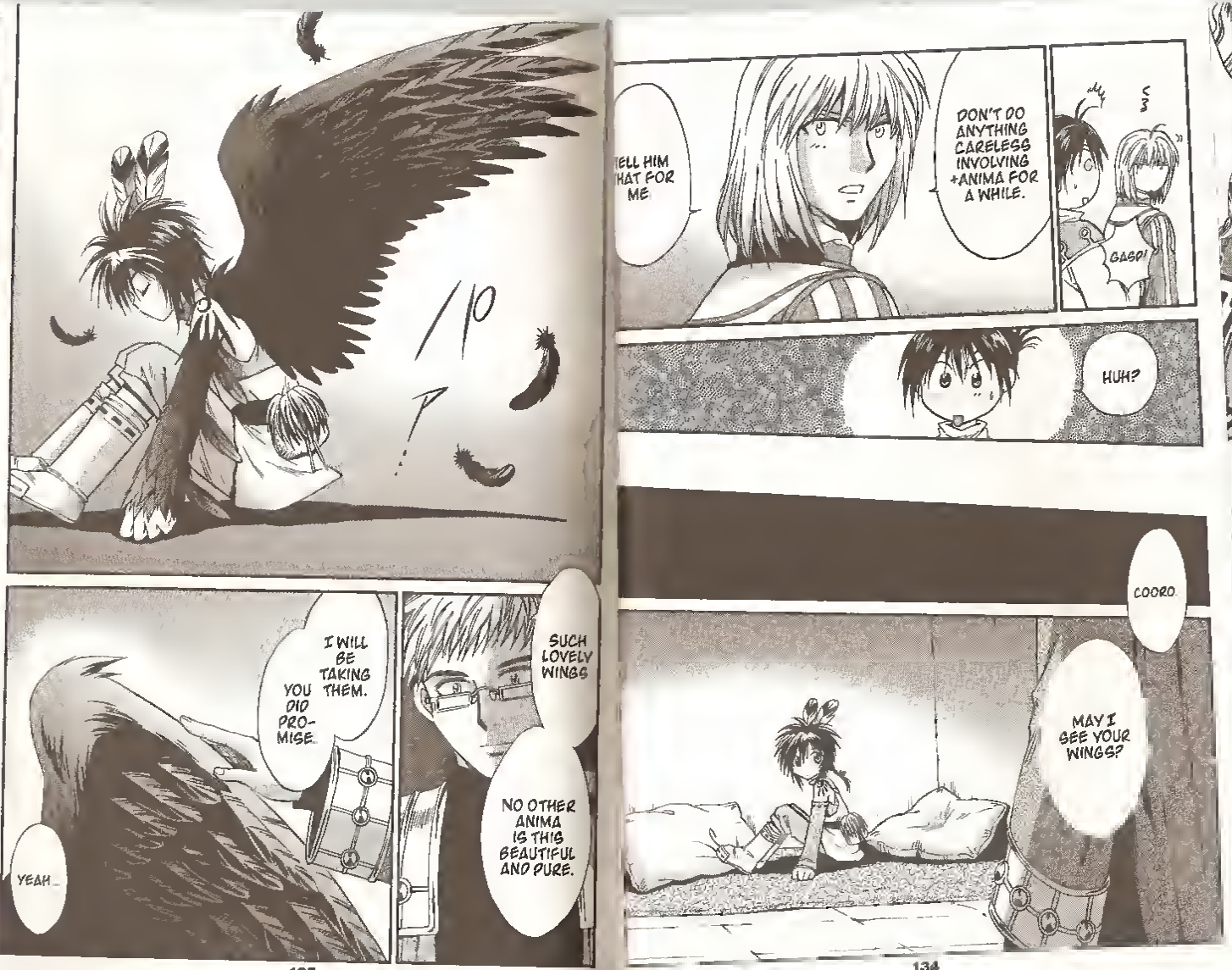
IT'S COORO, YOU KNOW? IT'S LIKE, HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE PUTTING ON AN ACT, BUT HE IS
BECAUSE YOU GOT MAD, NANA...
...IT'S BECAUSE YOU SAID "GOODBYE" THAT HE DIDN'T STOP US.
...?
I CAN
...IT'S HAPPENED BEFORE, REMEMBER?
HE TRIES TO RESPECT PEOPLE'S FREE WILL.
SO HE WON'T PUT UP A DANG FIGHT.
AH...
SO YOU JUST LEFT HIM?
ISN'T THAT A LITTLE HARSH?
IF HUSKY SAYS HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE WITH US, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
THAT'S HIS CHOICE TO MAKE.
COORO...
IS HE THE ONE THAT TOLD YOU TO GO AWAY?
EH?
OH... YEAH.
IT WAS THE GAME WITH SHADOW TOO.
THEN GO ALREADY!
YEAH!
IF I HADN'T TOLD HIM TO...
...HE WOULDN'T HAVE GONE AFTER SHADOW, NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE WANTED TO.
COORO...
SO DON'T THINK THAT JUST BECAUSE HE DIDN'T STOP US...
...IT MEANS HE WANTED TO SAY GOODBYE.

...AND THAT'S WHY HE CAN'T LEAVE THE RESEARCH FACILITY.
MAYBE C-COORO REALLY IS A MAN-MADE +ANIMA
COORO WAS ALWAYS SMILING HAPPILY.
OF COURSE NOT!
SO WE SMILED, TOO.
THIS IS COORO! THE ONE THAT TRAVELED WITH US ALL THAT TIME!!

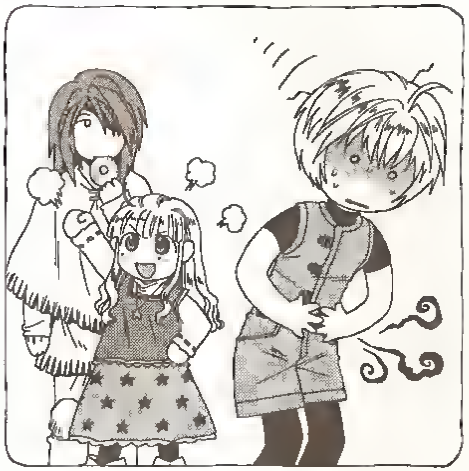
DON'T YOU THINK ..
..HE WAS TRYING TO AVOID RUNNING INTO FLY?
HE WASN'T THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED GOING TO THE CHURCH, EITHER.
HE DOESN'T WANT TO BE AT THE RESEARCH FACILITY.
DON'T YOU THINK HE HAS SOME KIND OF REASON?
THE TRUTH IS...
..I DIDN'T WANT TO SAY GOODBYE, EITHER.


BUT I'M SURE COORO WON'T SAY HE DOESN'T WANT TO COME.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT.
I..
WHAT?! YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH IT?!
ALL RIGHT!
THEN LET'S GO GET COORO!
HE'LL TAKE HIM WITH IS EVEN IF E SAYS HE DOESN'T WANT TO COME!

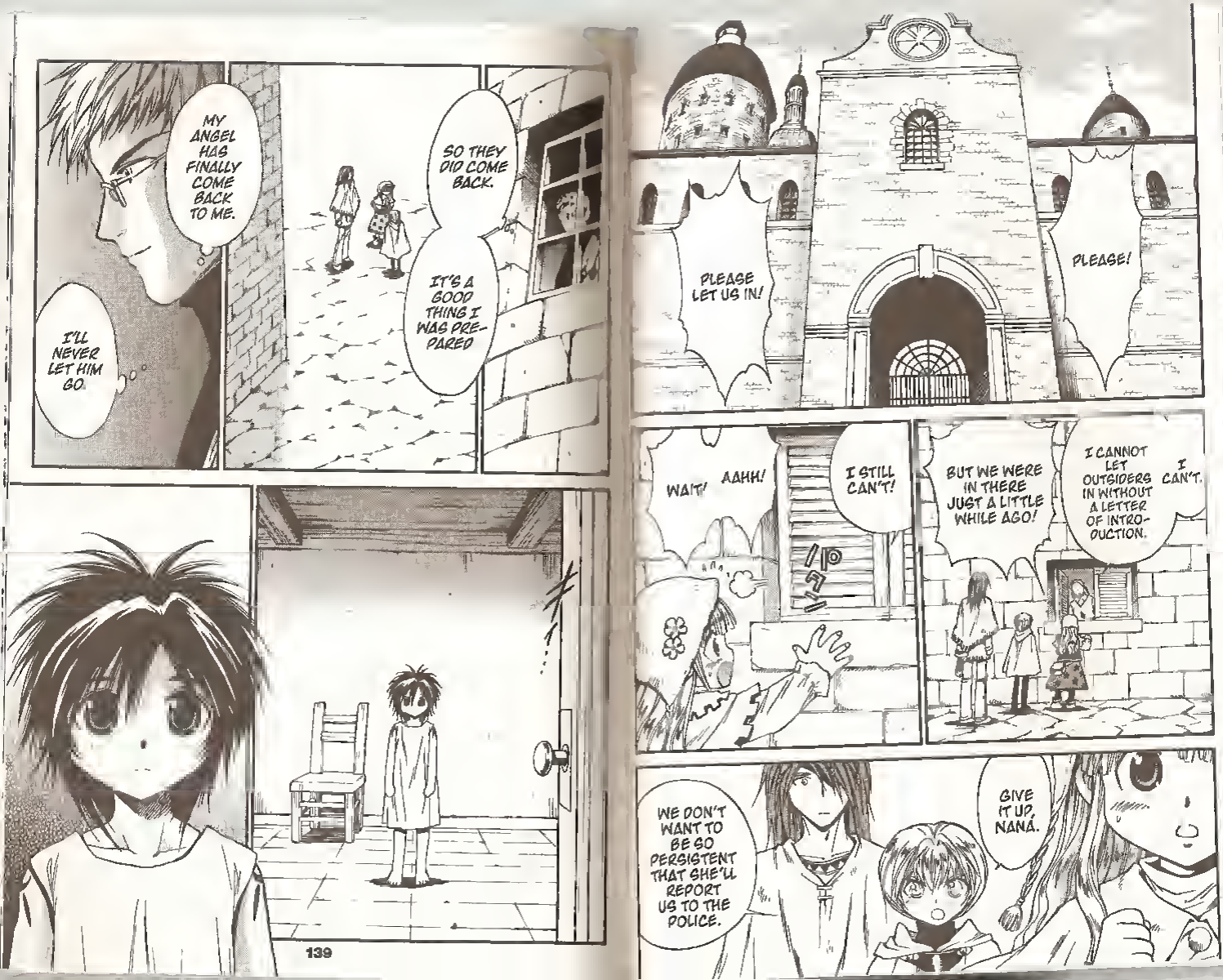
I WOULD LIKE TO SEE FLY.
UH...
MR. FLY IS OUT RIGHT NOW.
EXCUSE ME.
OH GOOD, HE DOESN'T REMEMBER ME.
WHERE DID HE GO?!
DUNNO
THAT IDIOT


TELL HIM THAT FOR ME.
DON'T DO ANYTHING CARELESS INVOLVING +ANIMA FOR A WHILE.
GASP!
HUH?
COORO.
MAY I SEE YOUR WINGS?
SUCH LOVELY WINGS
NO OTHER ANIMA IS THIS BEAUTIFUL AND PURE.
I WILL BE TAKING THEM.
YOU DID PRO-MISE.
YEAH_

Chapter 55
Goodbye

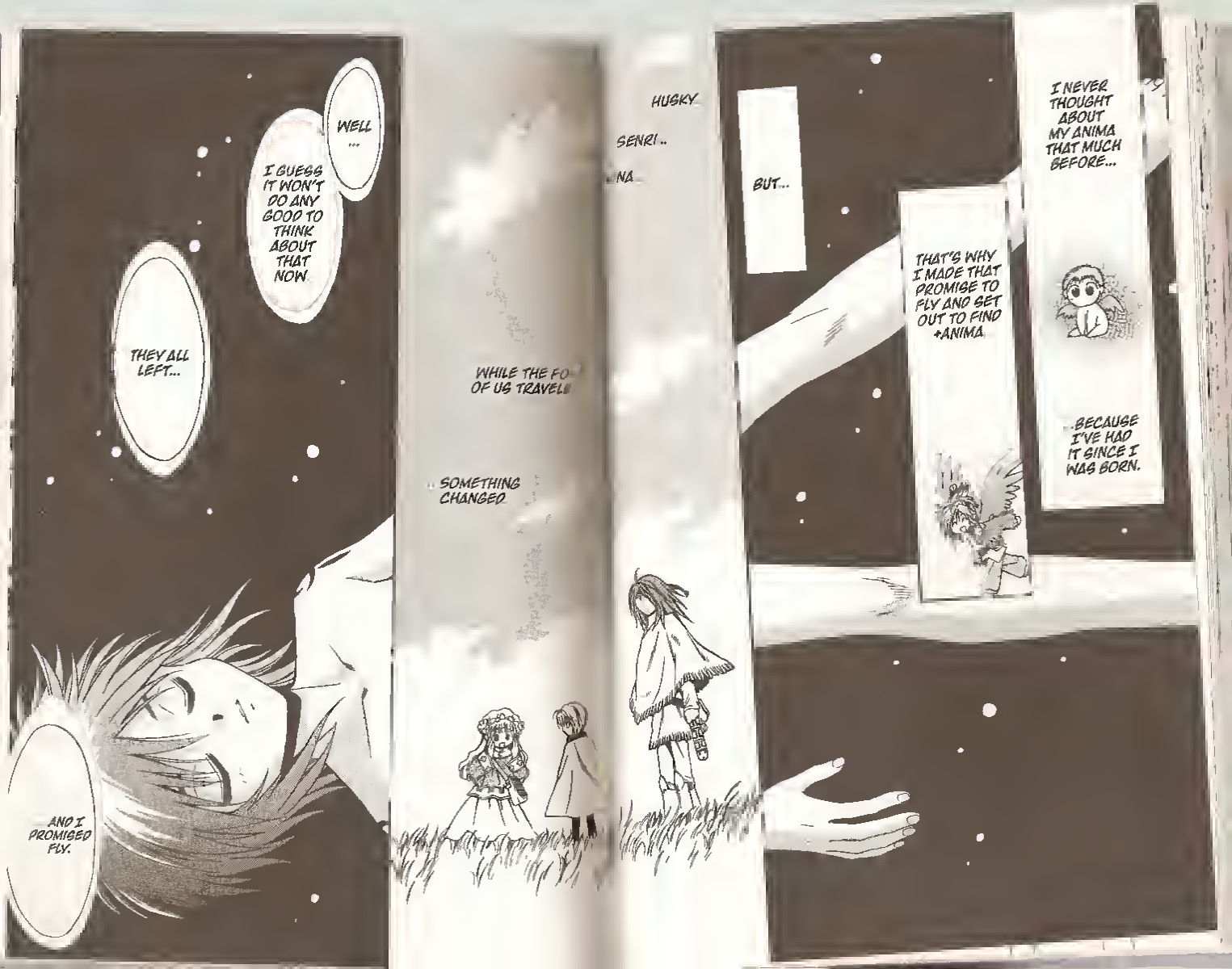


I've got a terrible stomachache.

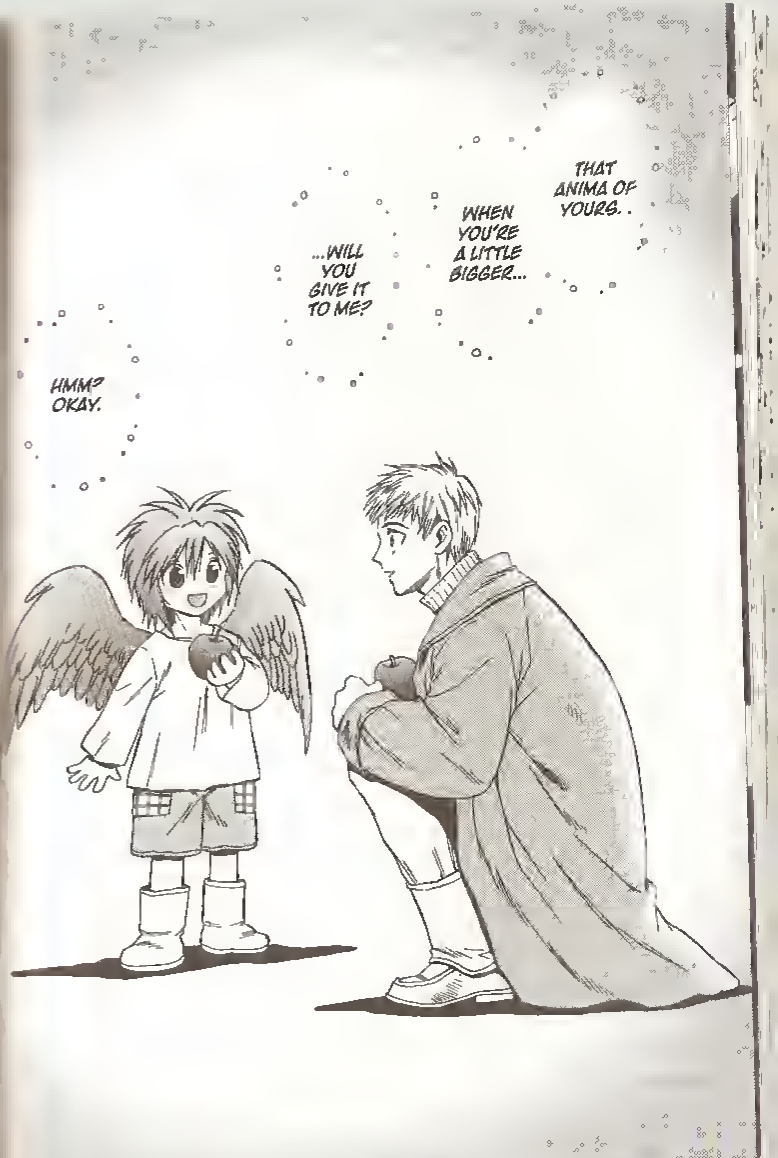

MY ANGEL HAS FINALLY COME BACK TO ME.
I'LL NEVER LET HIM GO.
SO THEY DID COME BACK.
IT'S A GOOD THING I WAS PREPARED
PLEASE LET US IN!
PLEASE!
WAIT!
AAHH!
I STILL CAN'T!
BUT WE WERE IN THERE JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO!
I CANNOT LET OUTSIDERS IN WITHOUT A LETTER OF INTRODUCTION.
I CAN'T.
WE DON'T WANT TO BE SO PERSISTENT THAT SHE'LL REPORT US TO THE POLICE.
GIVE IT UP, NANA.

YOU ARE A MAN-MADE +ANIMA.
AARON MADE YOU AND HAD THEM RAISE YOU AT THE CHURCH.
YOU DON'T HAVE A FATHER OR A MOTHER, COORO.
DRINK THIS.
WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER. YOU DID COME BACK.
BUT YOU FORGOT ON PURPOSE, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU SAID THAT YOU FORGOT TO COME BACK TO THE RESEARCH FACILITY.

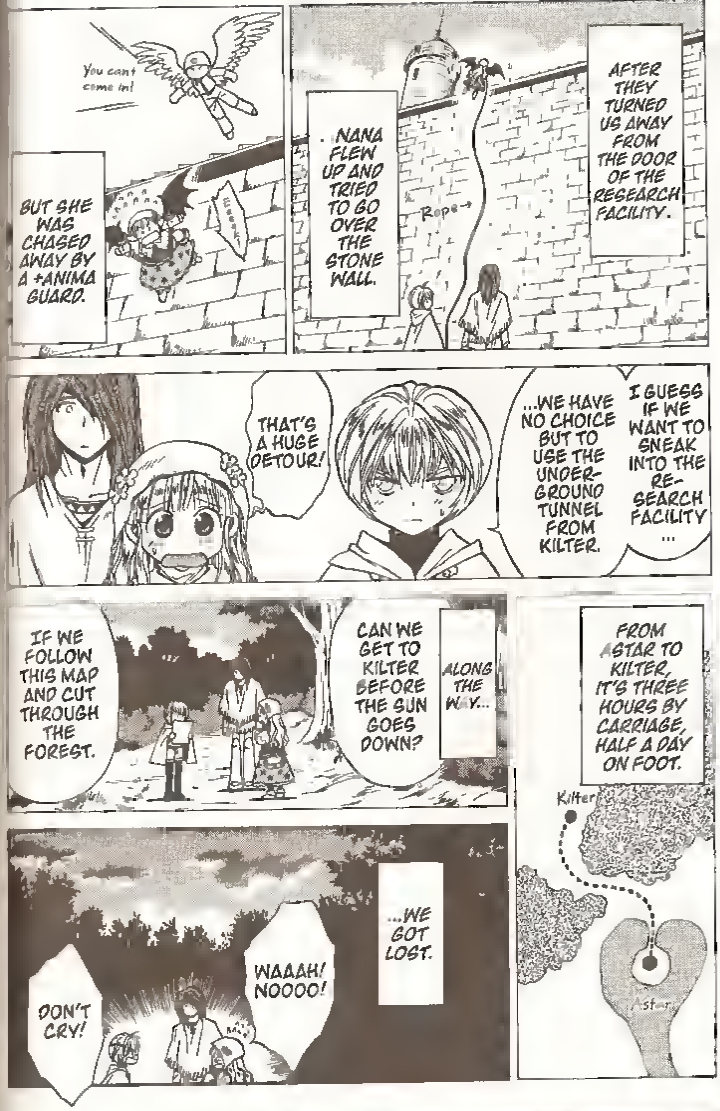
...A MAN-MADE +ANIMA?
AM I..
...
YOU'VE NEVER ASKED ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE.
WHAT'S WRONG?
...IT'S KIND OF BEEN BOTHERING ME.
"YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW HARD IT IS AND HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE TO HAVE ANIMA."
"YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM US, COORO."
BUT...
I...NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT BEFORE, EITHER.


WELL ...
I GUESS IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD TO THINK ABOUT THAT NOW.
THEY ALL LEFT...
AND I PROMISED PLY.
WHILE THE FO
OF US TRAVEL
SOMETHING CHANGED
HUSKY
SENRI..
NA
BUT...
I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT MY ANIMA THAT MUCH BEFORE...
THAT'S WHY I MADE THAT PROMISE TO FLY AND SET OUT TO FIND +ANIMA
..BECAUSE I'VE HAD IT SINCE I WAS BORN.

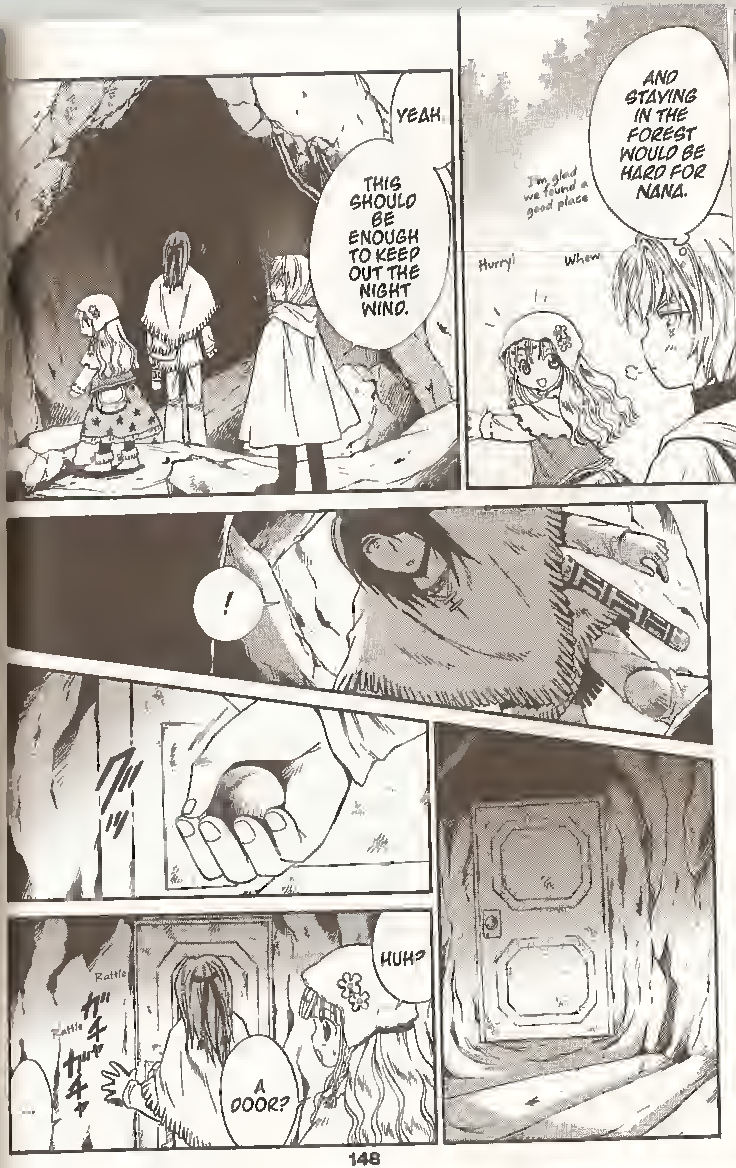
WHY DID WE COME INTO THIS FOREST?!
...
SHUT UP! I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT!
AREN'T WE IN KILTER YET?
HEY, IT'S GETTING DARK ALREADY
NO WE'RE NOT EVEN HALFWAY THERE


HMM? OKAY.
...WILL YOU GIVE IT TO ME?
WHEN YOU'RE A LITTLE BIGGER...
THAT ANIMA OF YOURS..

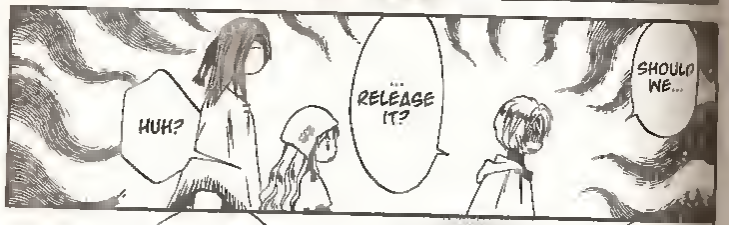
WHAT'S UP, SENRI?
OH.
YEAH. WE'RE NOT GETTING TO KILTER ANYTIME SOON ANYWAY.
It has a roof!
SLEEPING THERE WOULD BE MUCH BETTER THAN CAMPING OUT!

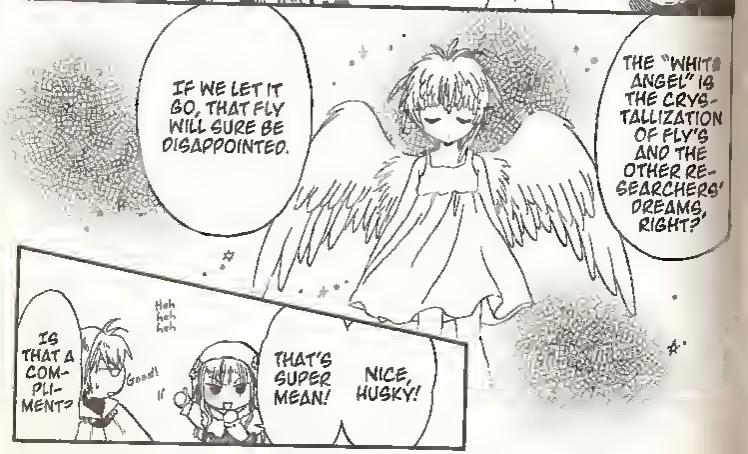

You can't come in!
BUT SHE WAS CHASED AWAY BY A +ANIMA GUARD.
NANA FLEW UP AND TRIED TO GO OVER THE STONE WALL.
Rope→
AFTER THEY TURNED US AWAY FROM THE DOOR OF THE RESEARCH FACILITY.
THAT'S A HUGE DETOUR!
...WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO USE THE UNDER-GROUND TUNNEL FROM KILTER.
I GUESS IF WE WANT TO SNEAK INTO THE RE-SEARCH FACILITY ...
IF WE FOLLOW THIS MAP AND CUT THROUGH THE FOREST.
CAN WE GET TO KILTER BEFORE THE SUN GOES DOWN?
ALONG THE WAY...
FROM ASTAR TO KILTER, IT'S THREE HOURS BY CARRIAGE, HALF A DAY ON FOOT.
Kilter
Astar
DON'T CRY!
WAAAH! NOOOO!
...WE GOT LOST.

?!
BUT...
IT'S PROBABLY AN ANCIENT RUIN.
IS THIS A BUILDING?
WELL...
SOMEONE'S BEEN HERE RECENTLY?
IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE.
WE DID WALK STRAIGHT FROM ASTAR TOWARD KILTER.
AND THE METAL FIXINGS ON THE DOOR AREN'T RUSTED.
THE STAIRWAY IS CLEAN

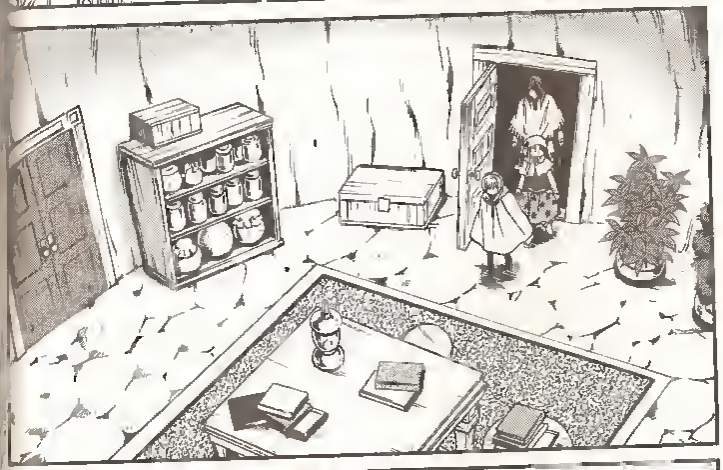

YEAH.
THIS SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO KEEP OUT THE NIGHT WIND.
I'm glad we found a good place
AND STAYING IN THE FOREST WOULD BE HARD FOR NANA.
Hurry!
Whew
!
HUH?
Rattle
Rattle
A DOOR?

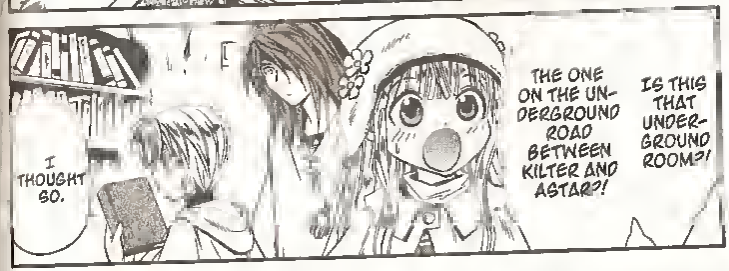
THE WHITE ANGEL...
...IS HERE TOO, RIGHT?
WE CAN USE THE UNDER-GROUND TUNNEL AND GET TO ASTAR FROM HERE.
SO WE DON'T HAVE TO GO ALL THE WAY TO KILTE!
YAY, THANK GOOD-NESS! ♡

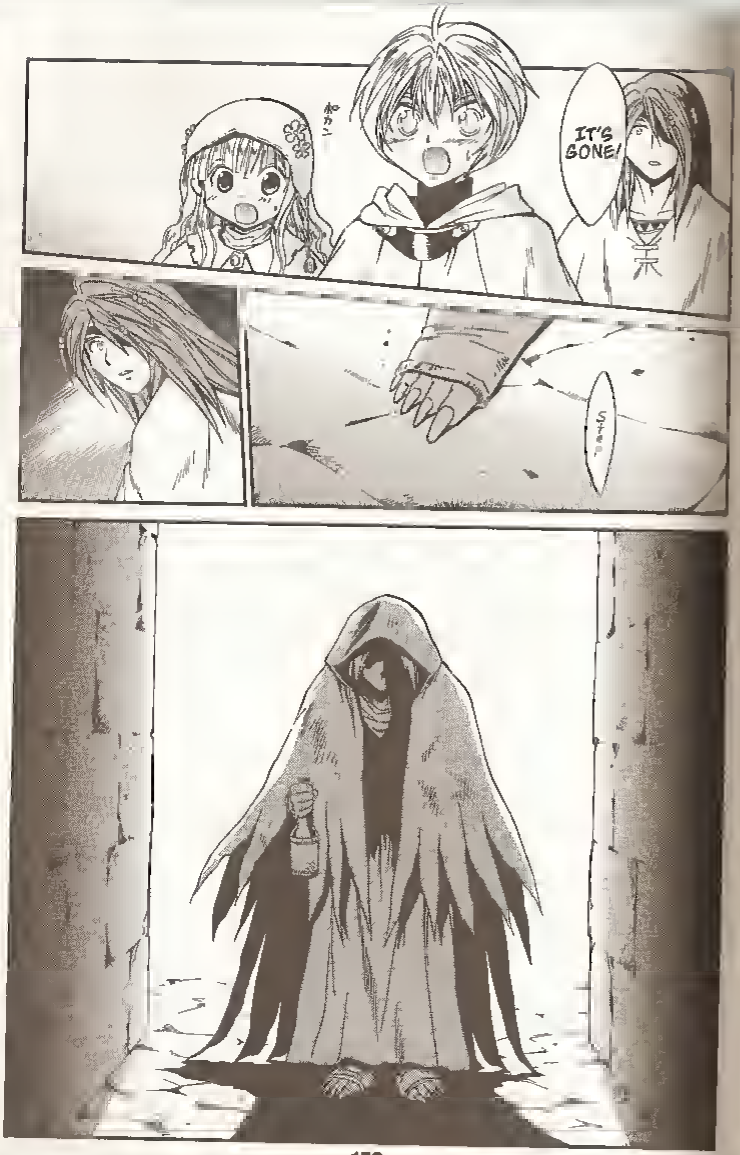

HUH?
...RELEASE IT?
SHOULD WE...

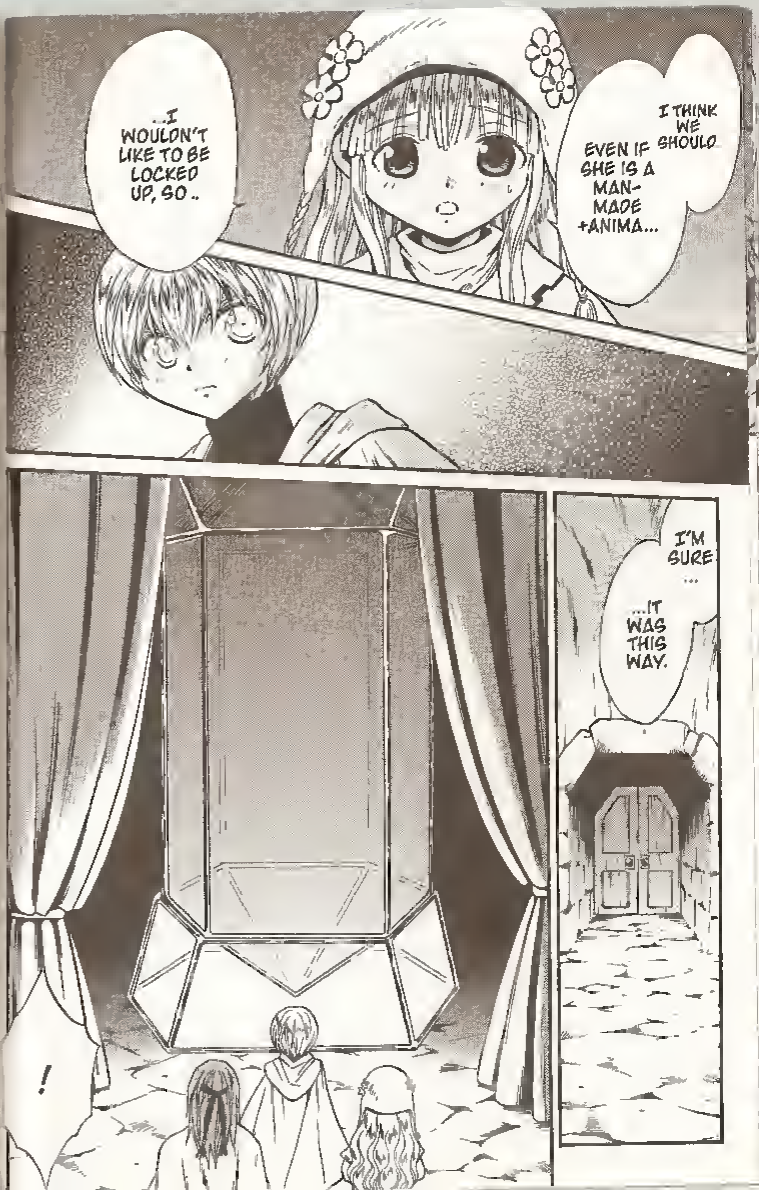

IF WE LET IT GO, THAT FLY WILL SURE BE DISAPPOINTED.
THE "WHITE ANGEL" IS THE CRYS-TALLIZATION OF FLY'S AND THE OTHER RE-SEARCHERS' DREAMS, RIGHT?
IS THAT A COM-PLI-MENT?
Good!
Heh heh heh
THAT'S SUPER MEAN!
NICE, HUSKY!

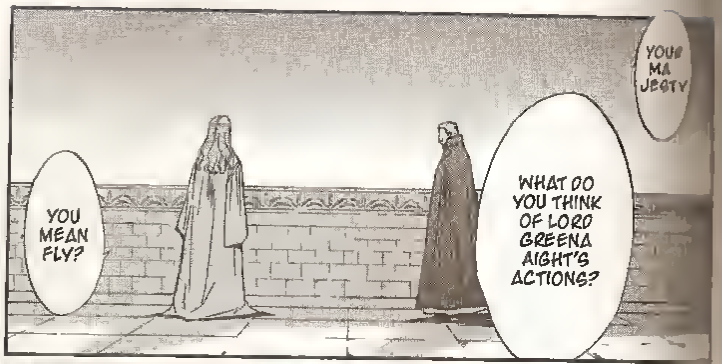
OH!

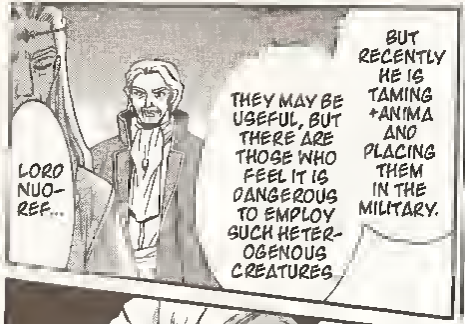


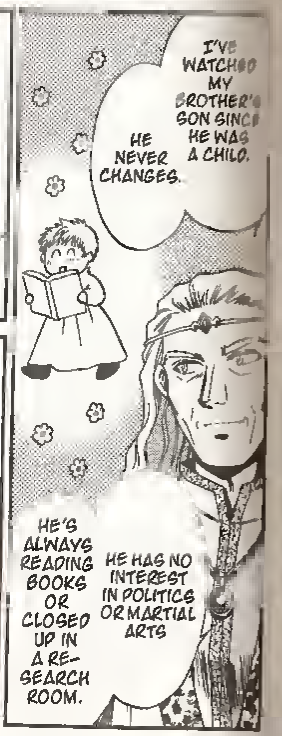

I THOUGHT SO.
THE ONE ON THE UN-DERGROUND ROAD BETWEEN KILTER AND ASTAR?!
IS THIS THAT UNDER-GROUND ROOM?!


IT'S GONE!

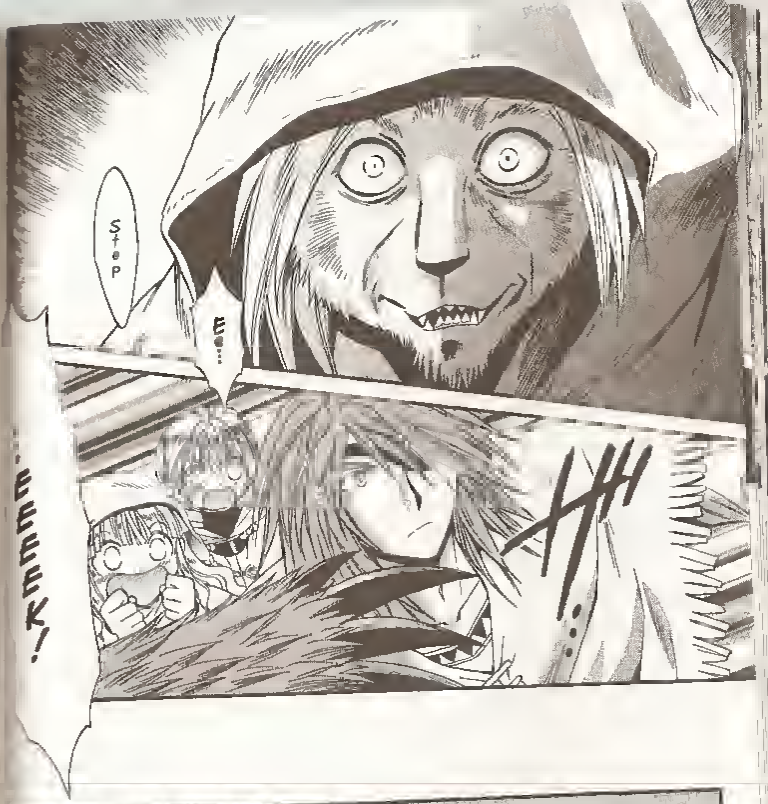

...I WOULDN'T LIKE TO BE LOCKED UP, SO..
I THINK WE SHOULD EVEN IF SHE IS A MAN-MADE +ANIMA...
I'M SURE ... ...IT WAS THIS WAY.
!

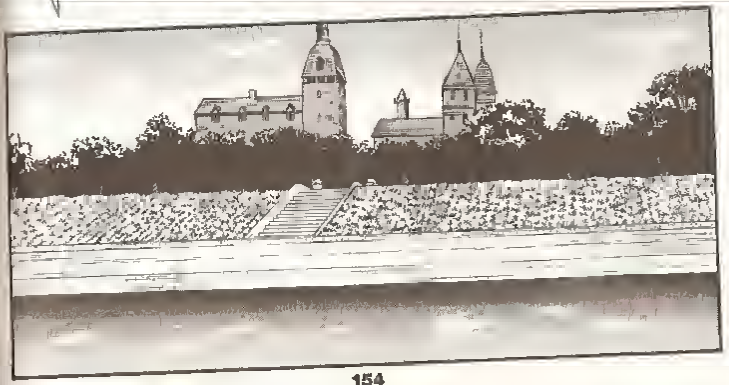

YOUR MAJESTY
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF LORD GREENAIGHT'S ACTIONS?
YOU MEAN FLY?


BUT RECENTLY HE IS TAMING +ANIMA AND PLACING THEM IN THE MILITARY.
THEY MAY BE USEFUL, BUT THERE ARE THOSE WHO FEEL IT IS DANGEROUS TO EMPLOY SUCH HETEROGENOUS CREATURES.
LORD NUOREE...

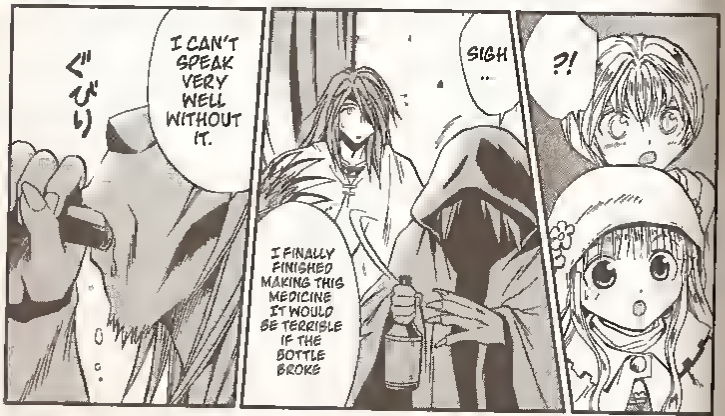

I'VE WATCHED MY BROTHER'S SON SINCE HE WAS A CHILD.
HE NEVER CHANGES.
HE'S ALWAYS READING BOOKS OR CLOSED UP IN A RESEARCH ROOM.
HE HAS NO INTEREST IN POLITICS OR MARTIAL ARTS

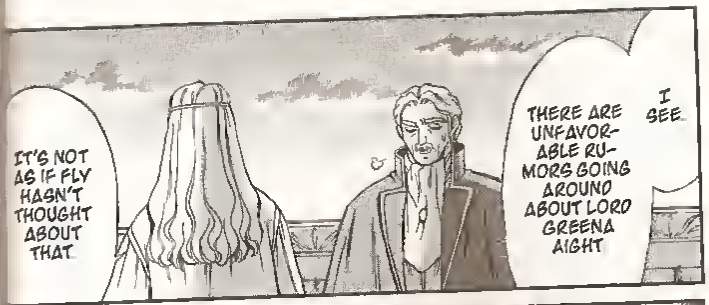
THAT'S WHY WE ASSIGN THEM ALL TO SEPARATE SQUADRONS AND DON'T HAVE ANY PURELY +ANIMA REGIMENTS.
I MYSELF HAVE NO INTENTION OF ALLOWING +ANIMA TO CONTROL ASTARIA!


STOP
EE...
KHHHH!

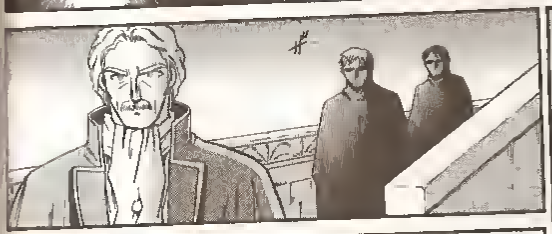


I'M NOT AS YOUNG AS I USED TO BE PLEASE STOP
OH COME NOW.

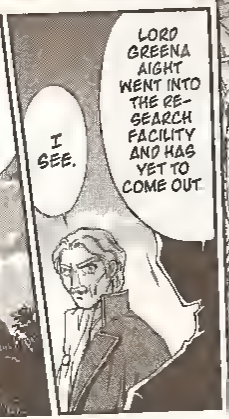

I CAN'T SPEAK VERY WELL WITHOUT IT.
I FINALLY FINISHED MAKING THIS MEDICINE IT WOULD BE TERRIBLE IF THE BOTTLE BROKE
SIGH...
?!


IT'S NOT AS IF FLY HASN'T THOUGHT ABOUT THAT
THERE ARE UNFAVORABLE RUMORS GOING AROUND ABOUT LORD GREENA AIGHT
I SEE

FLY...
I HOPE HE HAS



DON'T TAKE YOUR EYES OFF HIM
YES, SIR.


I SEE.
LORD GREENA AIGHT WENT INTO THE RESEARCH FACILITY AND HAS YET TO COME OUT

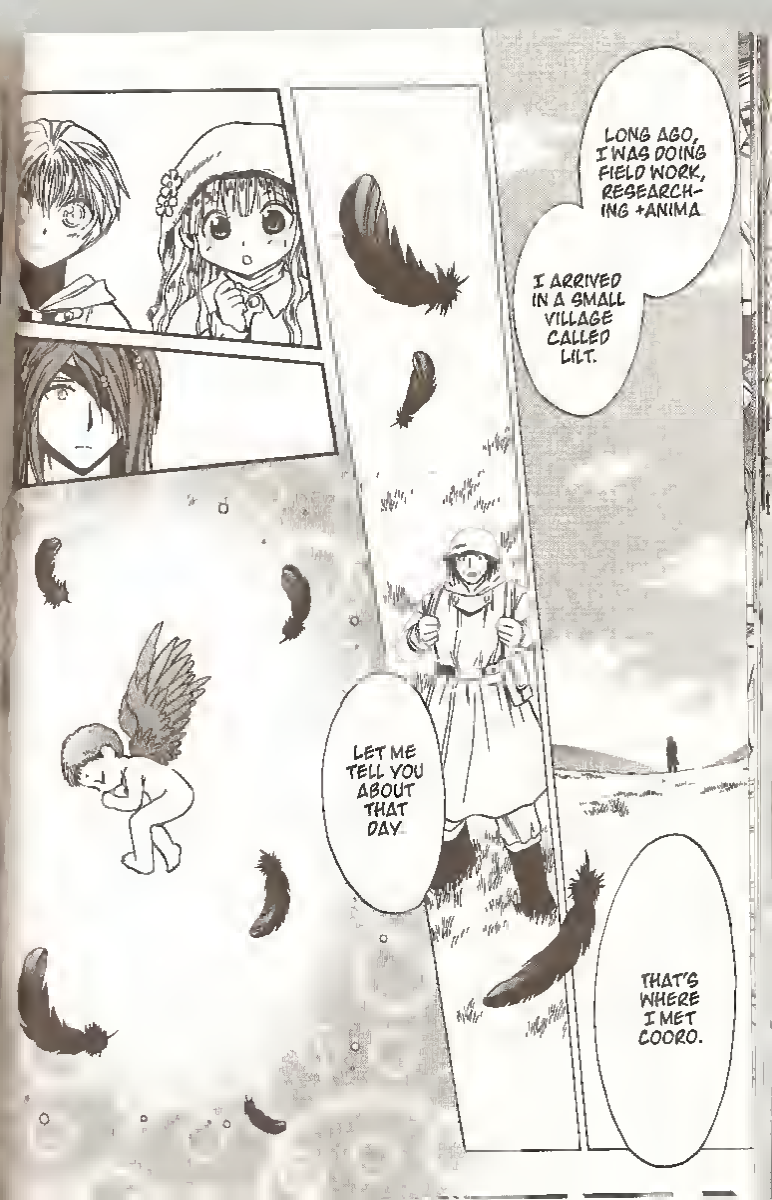
THAT'S RIGHT.
IT WAS AN ANIMA IMPLANTATION EXPERIMENT.
DON'T TELL ME YOU... LOOK LIKE THAT BECAUSE --
YOU RESEARCH ANIMA?
FLY HAS TAKEN OVER MY RESEARCH, BUT--
BECAUSE OF THIS FORM, I RETIRED FROM THE NATIONAL RESEARCH FACILITY AND LIVE HERE.
IT'S HARD TO CALL MY IMPLANTATION A SUCCESS
...YOU MADE COORO?!
COORO
OH!
TH-THEN ...

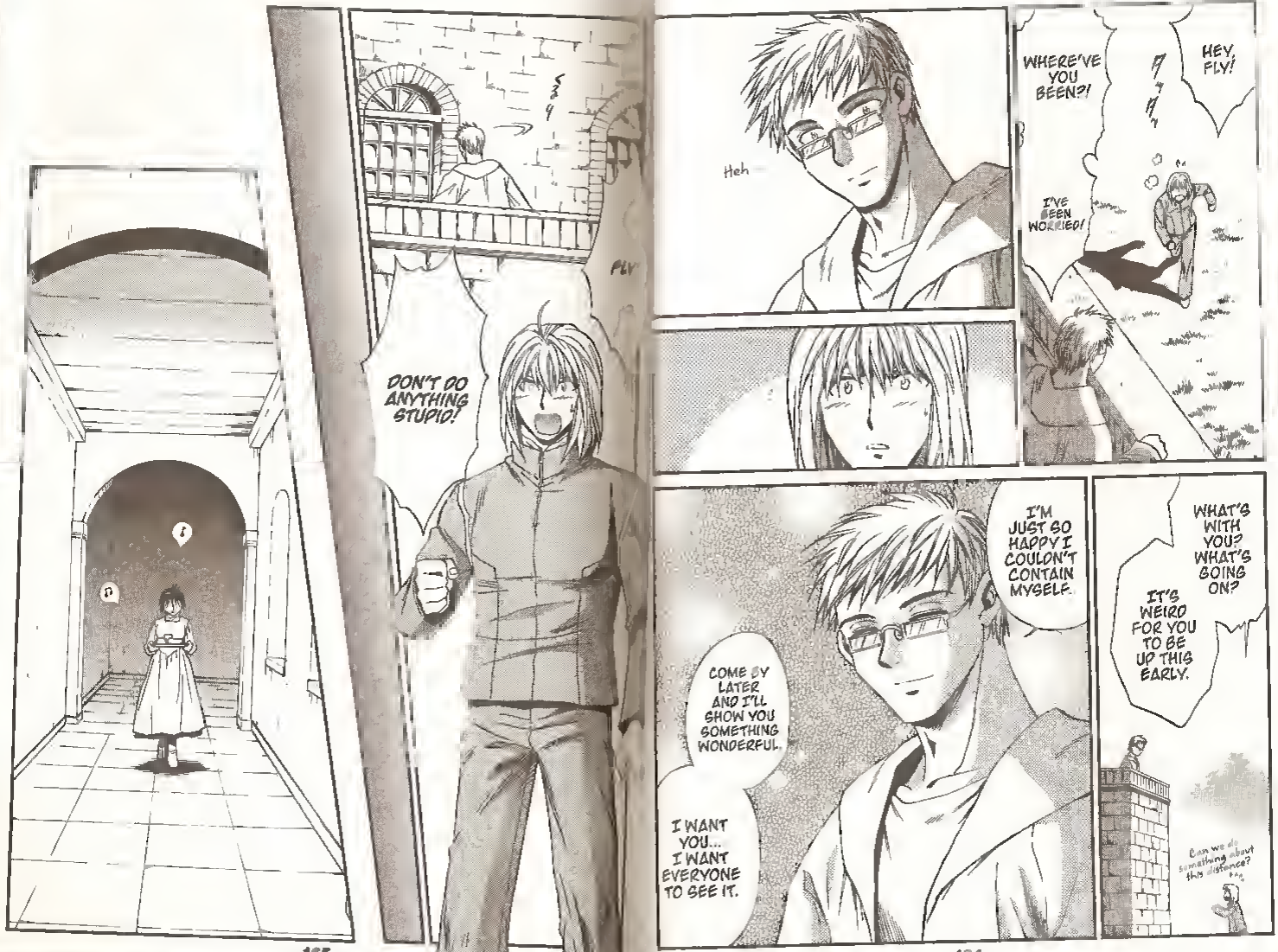
I AM AARON NEWT.
I WAS ONCE A RESEARCHER AT THE ASTARIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH FACILITY.
Y-YOU'RE ...
...HUMAN?
...NEWT?
AARON ...
I'VE KNOWN HIM SINCE HE WAS A CHILD.
A FELLOW RESEARCHER WHO STUDIED ANIMA WITH ME.
FLY IS MY APPRENTICE.
UMM, WELL, I THINK FLY WAS SAYING SOMETHING--
WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE?

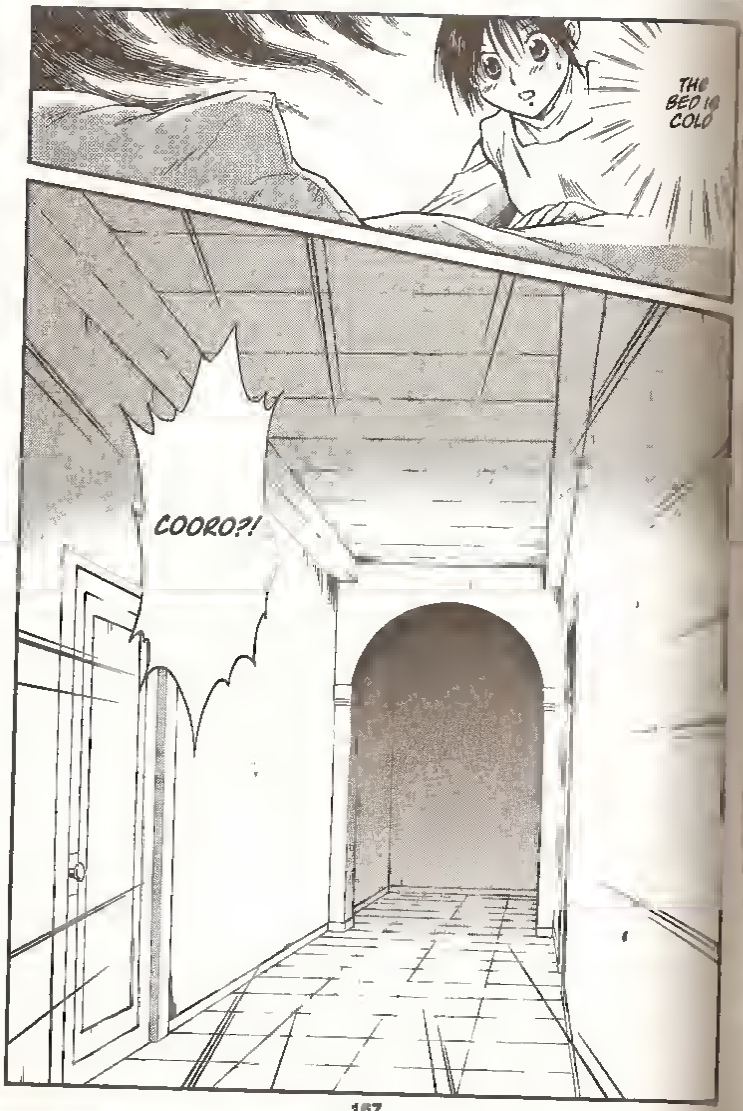
WHAAAAT?!
R-R-REALLY?
I'M SAYING THIS AS THE ONE WHO SAW THE MOMENT COORO BECAME A +ANIMA, SO THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
I'VE NEVER SEEN A +ANIMA LIKE HIM.
HE WAS BORN A +ANIMA.
TELL US ABOUT COORO!
COORO IS WITH FLY RIGHT NOW, AND WE WANT TO GET HIM BACK.
WE WANT TO KNOW EVERY LITTLE THING WE CAN ABOUT COORO!

WHY WOULD YOU DO SUCH A THING?
IT'S SO CRUEL!
I--
WE DON'T CARE WHY YOU DID IT!
WE CAN'T FORGIVE YOU FOR TOYING WITH US AND OUR FEELINGS LIKE THAT!!
W-WAIT A MOMENT!
I DIDN'T MAKE COORO.
COORO IS A GENUINE +ANIMA!
HUH?

BUT THERE'S NO WAY FLY WOULD BE AWAKE THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING.
Huff
Huff
Dvd running
I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT HIM I ENDED UP AT THE RESEARCH FACILITY.
FLY?!
Huff, huff

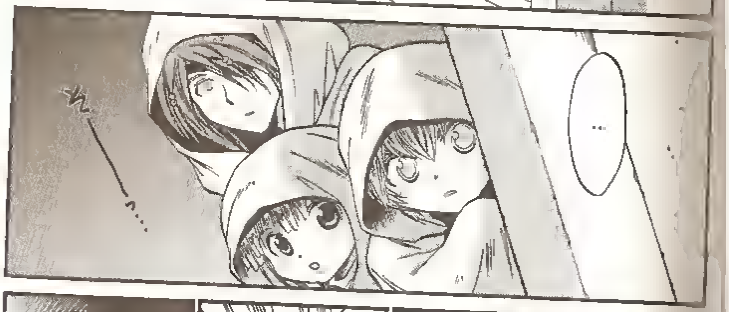

LONG AGO, I WAS DOING FIELD WORK, RESEARCHING +ANIMA
I ARRIVED IN A SMALL VILLAGE CALLED LILT.
LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THAT DAY.
THAT'S WHERE I MET COORO.

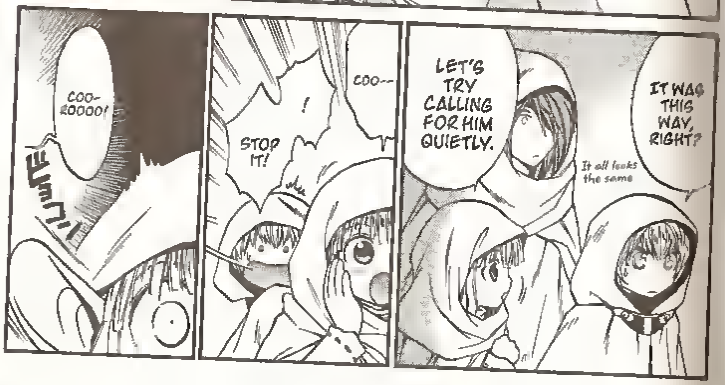

Heh
WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?!
HEY, FLY!
I'VE BEEN WORRIED!
I'M JUST SO HAPPY I COULDN'T CONTAIN MYSELF.
COME BY LATER AND I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING WONDERFUL.
I WANT YOU... I WANT EVERYONE TO SEE IT.
WHAT'S WITH YOU? WHAT'S GOING ON?
IT'S WEIRD FOR YOU TO BE UP THIS EARLY.
Can we do something about this distance?
FLY
DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID!

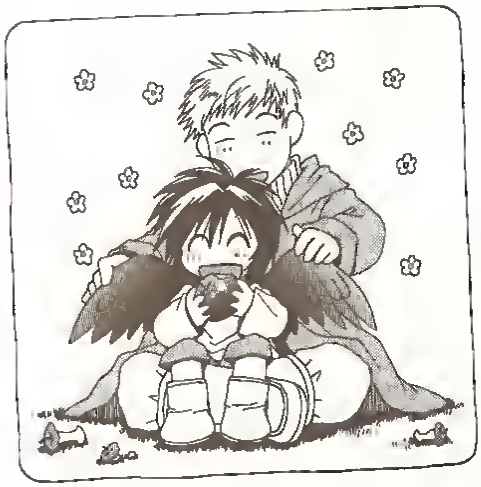

THE BED IS COLD
COORO?!

GOOD MORNING, COORO!
I BROUGHT YOUR BREAKFAST
WHEN YOU'RE DONE EATING, I'LL CLEAN YOU OFF AND CHANGE YOUR BANDAG--
HUH?
C-COORO?
WHA...?

Chapter 56
Hill of Fluttering Wings



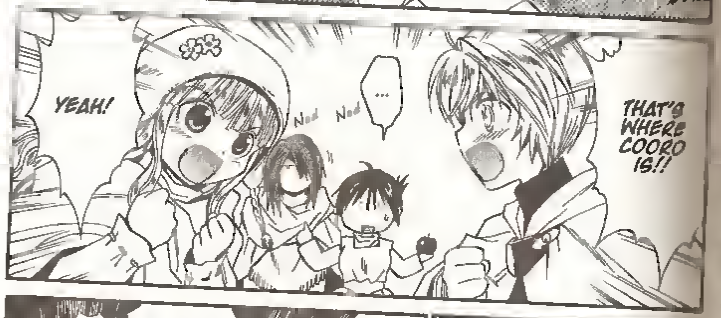




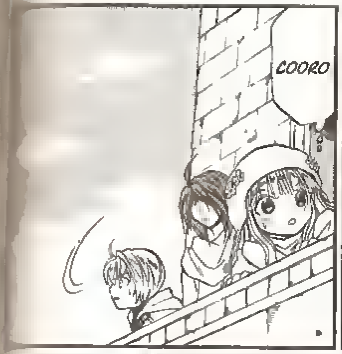
Tempted by some special offers...

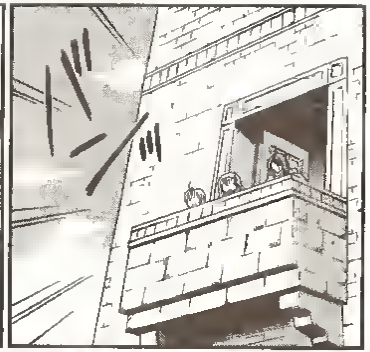
THE OPERATION TO TAKE HIS ANIMA
APPARENTLY HE PROMISED MR. FLY THAT WHEN HE CAME BACK TO THE FACILITY...
...HE WOULD HAVE THE ANIMA REMOVAL OPERATION.
COORO?
HAD HIS ANIMA REMOVED?!
OH NO, WHAT AM I GONNA DO?
MARCA!
IS SHE LOOKING FOR COORO, TOO?
I'LL PEEL YOU AN APPLE!
COME ON OUT!
COORO! WHERE ARE YOU?
HEY!
ACK!
HE JUST WENT THROUGH SURGERY, SO HE SHOULDN'T MOVE AROUND MUCH.
SUR-GERY?
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM ALL MORNING.
IS HE GONE?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN TO COORO?!
UH...

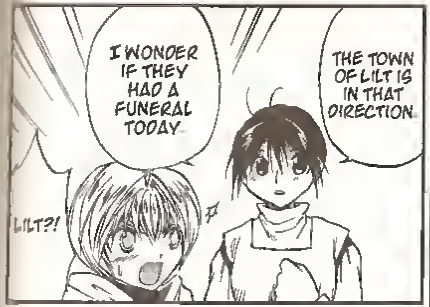
IT WAS FOUNDED BY PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE THAT ANIMA ARE SACRED.
SINCE CROWS COME TO THEIR FUNERALS, PEOPLE FROM OTHER TOWNS THINK CROWS ARE MESSENGERS OF DEATH OR BAD OMENS.
Blah
Blah
Blah
Know-it-all Researcher
IN LILT THEY EXPOSE THE BODIES OF THE DEAD TO BE EATEN BY BIRDS
IT'S A RELATIVELY NEW CUSTOM.

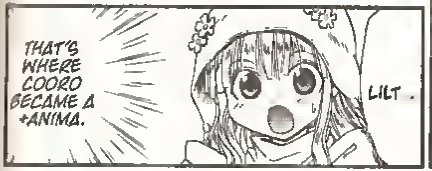

YEAH!
Nod
Nod
...
THAT'S WHERE COORO IS!!

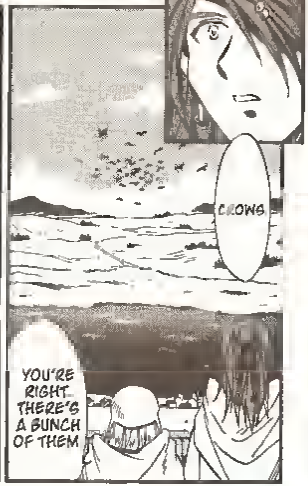
LET'S GO AFTER HIM! RIGHT AWAY!
IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD TO THINK ABOUT THAT NOW!
HOW LONG AGO DID COORO--?
UM... WELL, I GUESS ABOUT FIVE HOURS ON FOOT.
HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET TO LILT FROM HERE?!

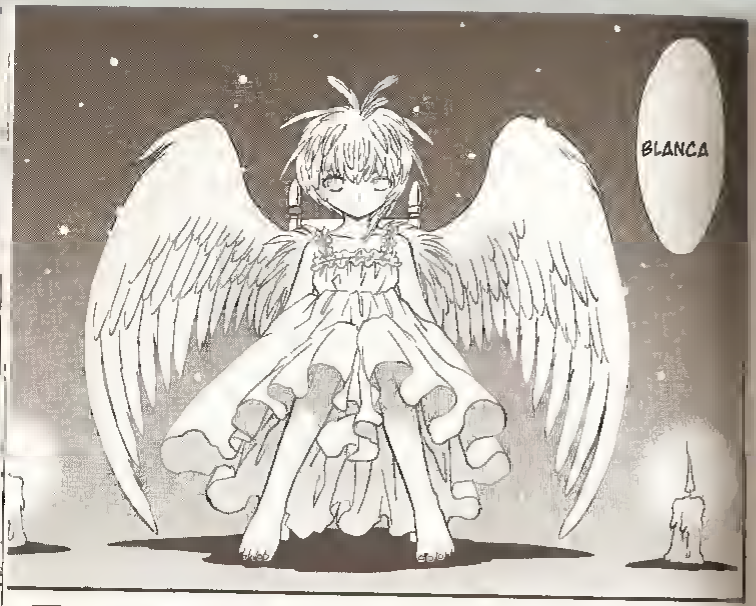

COORO

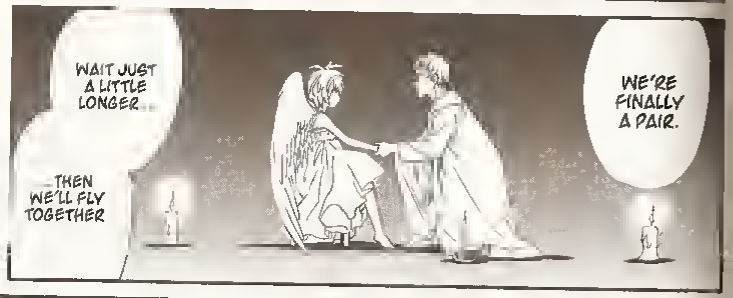


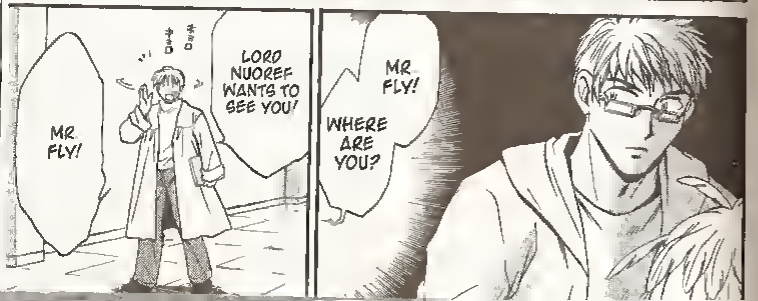

I WONDER IF THEY HAD A FUNERAL TODAY
THE TOWN OF LILT IS IN THAT DIRECTION.
LILT?!

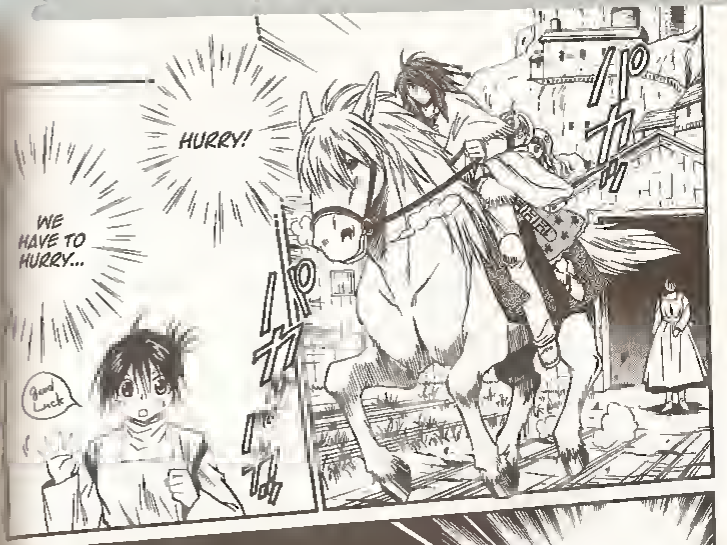

THAT'S WHERE COORO BECAME A *ANIMA.
LILT

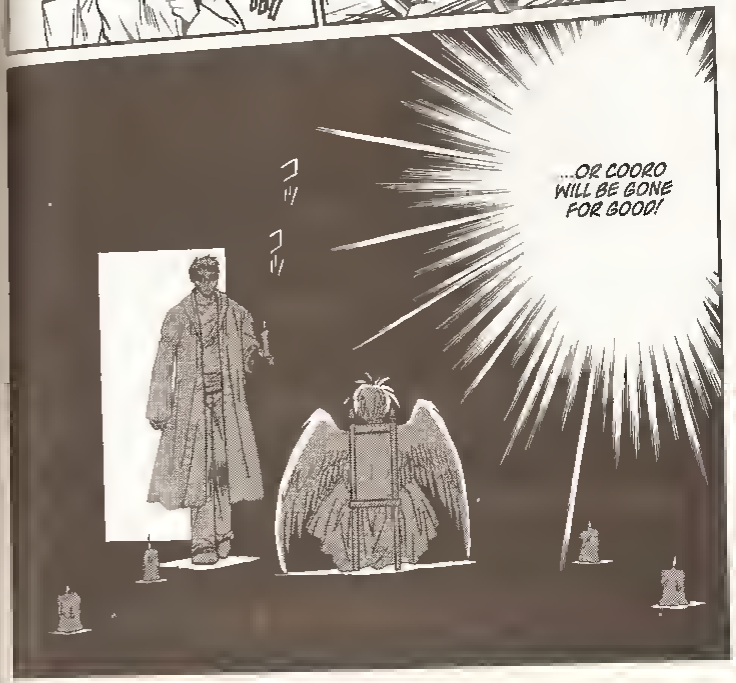

CROWS
YOU'RE RIGHT. THERE'S A BUNCH OF THEM


BLANCA

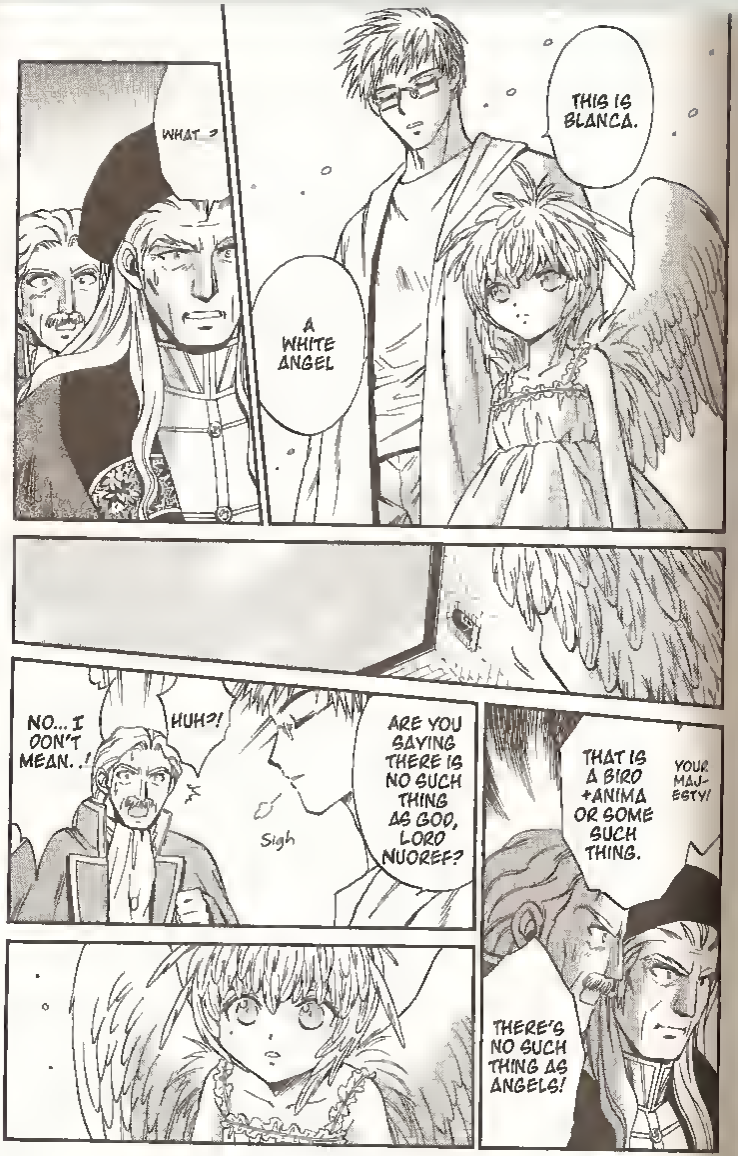

WAIT JUST A LITTLE LONGER...
...THEN WE'LL FLY TOGETHER
WE'RE FINALLY A PAIR.

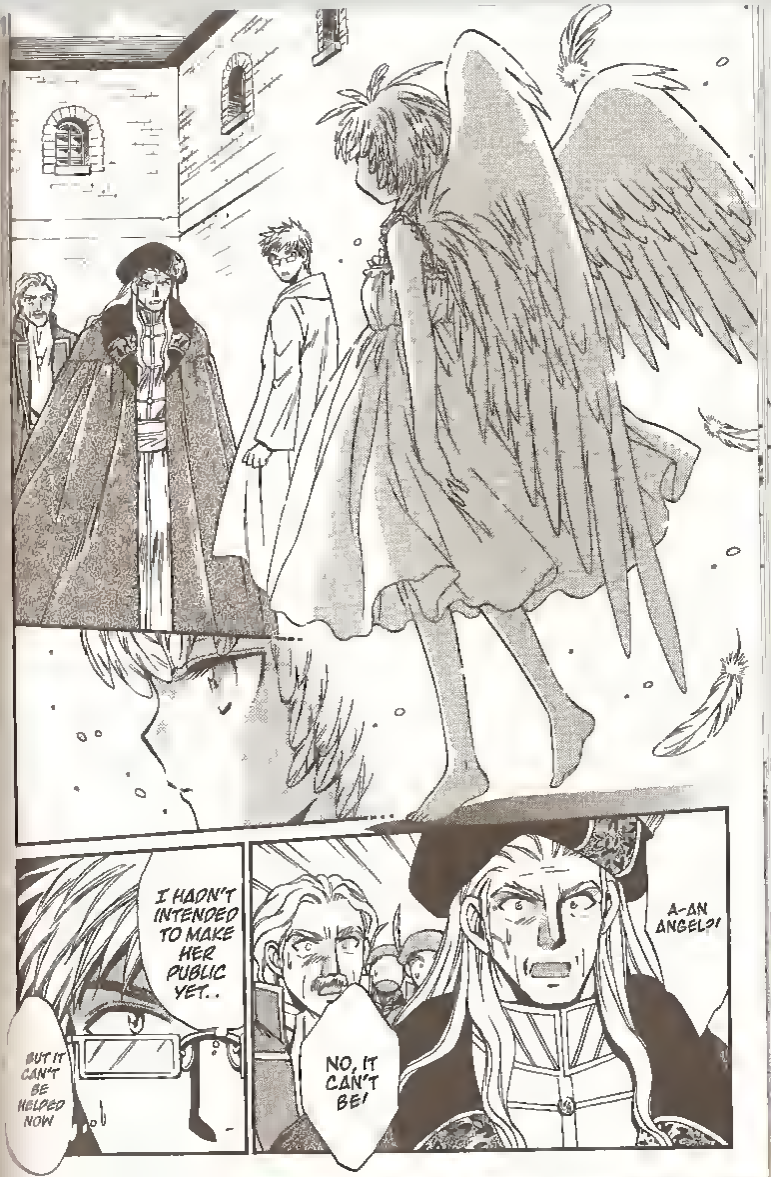

MR. FLY!
LORD NUOREF WANTS TO SEE YOU!
MR. FLY!
WHERE ARE YOU?


HURRY!
WE HAVE TO HURRY...
Good Luck


...OR COORO WILL BE GONE FOR GOOD!

MY..
-RE-SEARCH, YOU SAY?
I THOUGHT I MIGHT LIKE TO OBSERVE YOUR RESEARCH FROM TIME TO TIME
YOUR +ANIMA RESEARCH
?!
GOOD GRIEF!
IS HE HERE TO HECKLE ME AGAIN?
WHAT ON EARTH ..
BRINGS YOU TO A PLACE LIKE THIS?
YOUR MAJESTY


WHAT ?
THIS IS BLANCA.
A WHITE ANGEL
NO... I DON'T MEAN..!
HUH?!
ARE YOU SAYING THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS GOD, LORD NUOREF?
Sigh
THAT IS A BIRD +ANIMA OR SOME SUCH THING.
YOUR MAJESTY!
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS ANGELS!


I HADN'T INTENDED TO MAKE HER PUBLIC YET..
BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED NOW
A-AN ANGEL?!
NO, IT CAN'T BE!

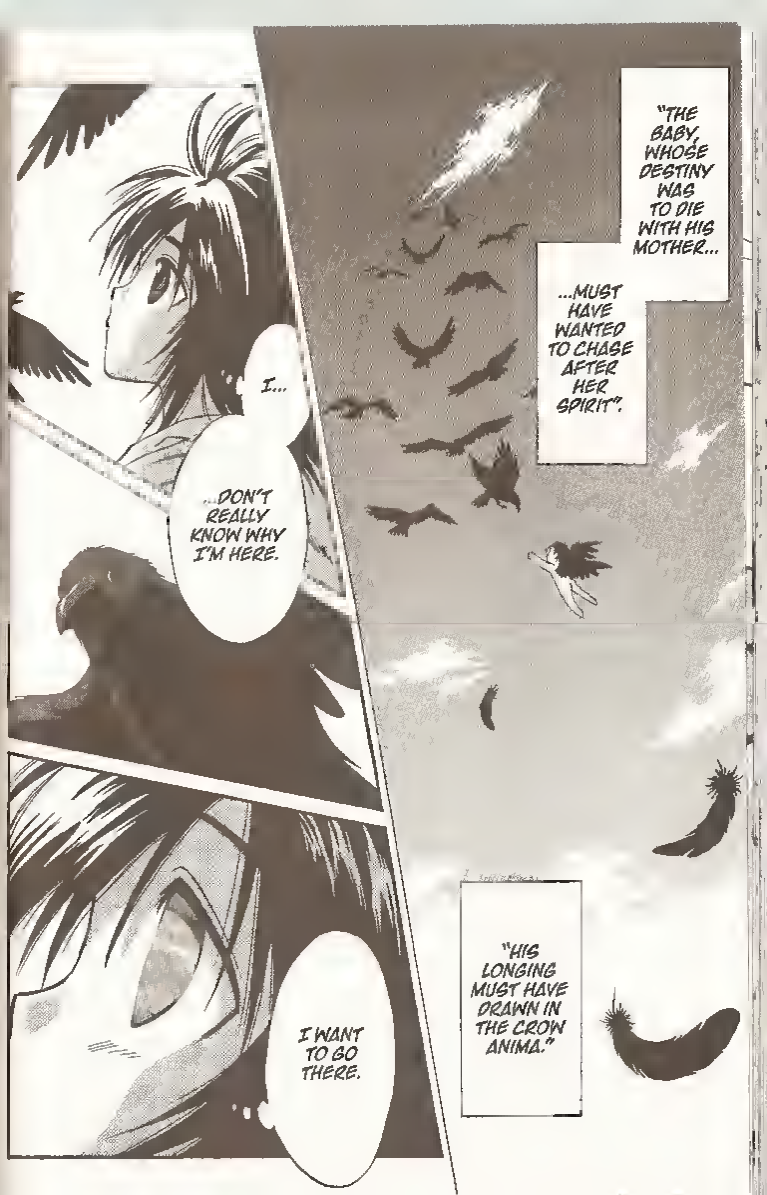
LORD GREENA WAS A +ANIMA?!
HE'S A +ANIM
?!
HE'S A BLACK-WINGED MESSENGER OF DEATH!
FLY?!

110
!!
BLANCA!!
IT-IT'S FLYING!

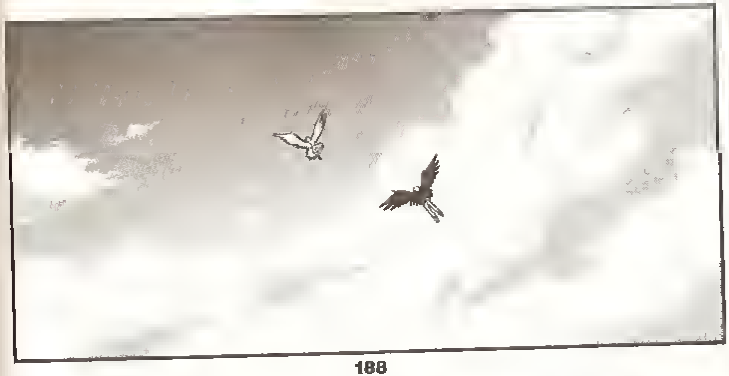
YOUR MAJ-ESTY!
FLY...
HAVE YOU BEEN POSSESSED BY THE MESSENGER OF DEATH?
LORD GREENA!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

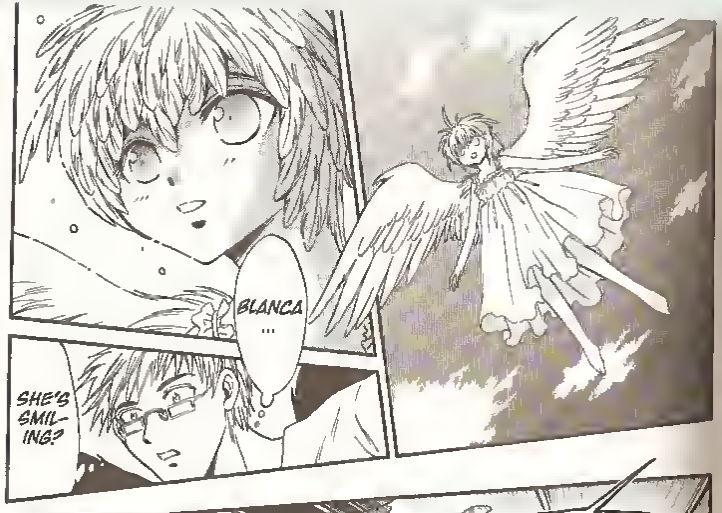
"WHAT I WITNESSED ...WAS THE FUNERAL OF A YOUNG MOTHER WHO DIED WHILE STILL WITH CHILD."
"IN LILT, WHEN SOMEONE DIES, THEIR BODIES ARE EATEN BY CROWS."
"IT MUST HAVE BEEN NO DIFFERENT WITH THE SOUL OF THIS MOTHER."
"THE DECEASED'S SPIRIT IS TAKEN TO HEAVEN BY THE CROWS."
?!
COORO!

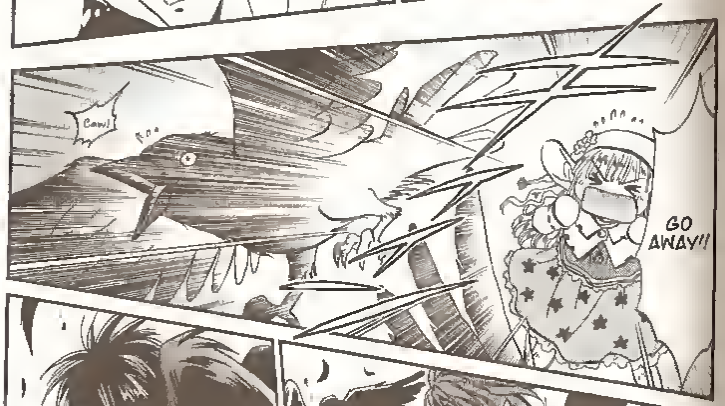
HUH?!
THAT ...
...IS NOT COORO'S ANIMA.
EH?!
WHAA.. ?! THEY SAID THEY TOOK HIS ANIMA!
COORO HAS WINGS?!

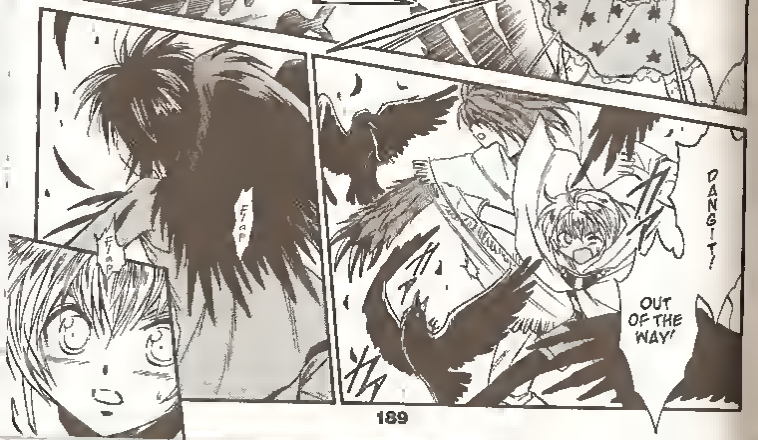

"THE BABY, WHOSE DESTINY WAS TO DIE WITH HIS MOTHER...
...MUST HAVE WANTED TO CHASE AFTER HER SPIRIT".
I...
...DON'T REALLY KNOW WHY I'M HERE.
I WANT TO GO THERE.
"HIS LONGING MUST HAVE DRAWN IN THE CROW ANIMA."

IS THAT AN ANIMA FROM ONE OF THE CROWS ON THIS HILL?
BUT IT'S NOT AN ANIMA HE NEEDS TO LIVE!
COORO!
DON'T GO!!




BLANCA ...
SHE'S SMILING?

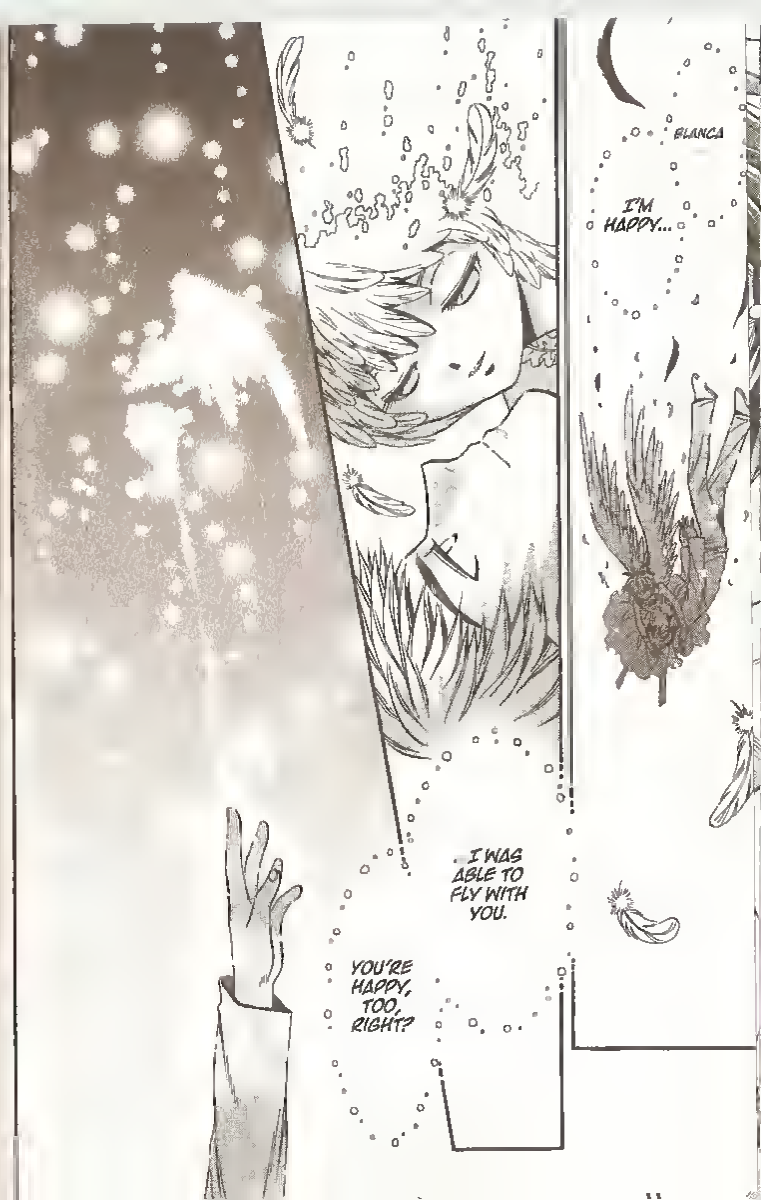

Caw!
GO AWAY!!


FLAP
FLAP
DANG IT!
OUT OF THE WAY!

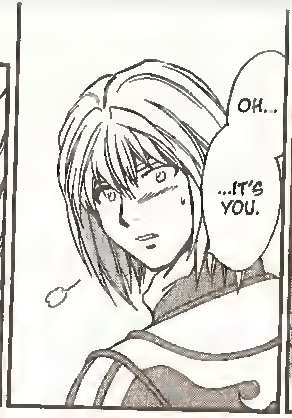
YOU OWE US...
...THAT MUCH!!

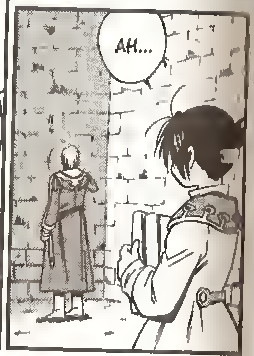
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
HEY!!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, COORO?!
TRY TELLING US WHAT YOU WANT FOR ONCE!
DON'T JUST LEAVE US!!
I DIDN'T MEAN IT WHEN I SAID GOODBYE!
COORO, I'M SORRY!
I WANT YOU TO STAY WITH US, COORO!

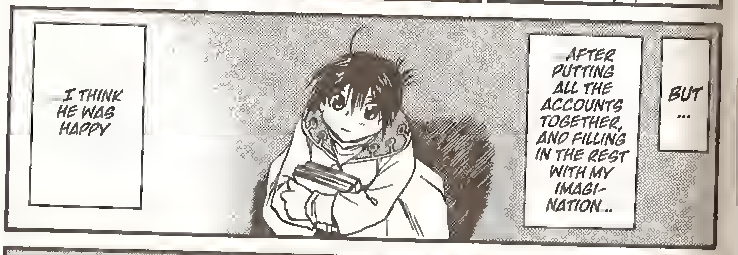
AHH...
COORO'S WINGS
COORO...
YOUR WINGS!
AH
AH

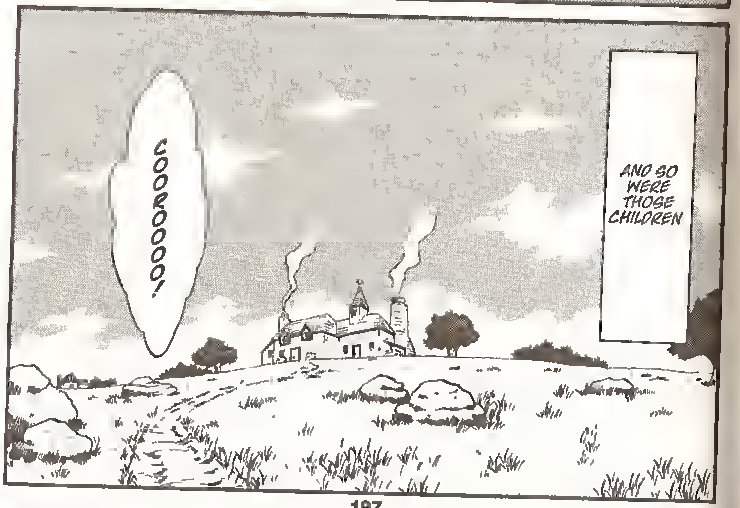

BLANCA
I'M HAPPY...
I WAS ABLE TO FLY WITH YOU.
YOU'RE HAPPY, TOO, RIGHT?

WAS HE CRYING?
...

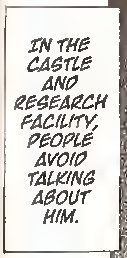

OH...
...IT'S YOU.


AH...

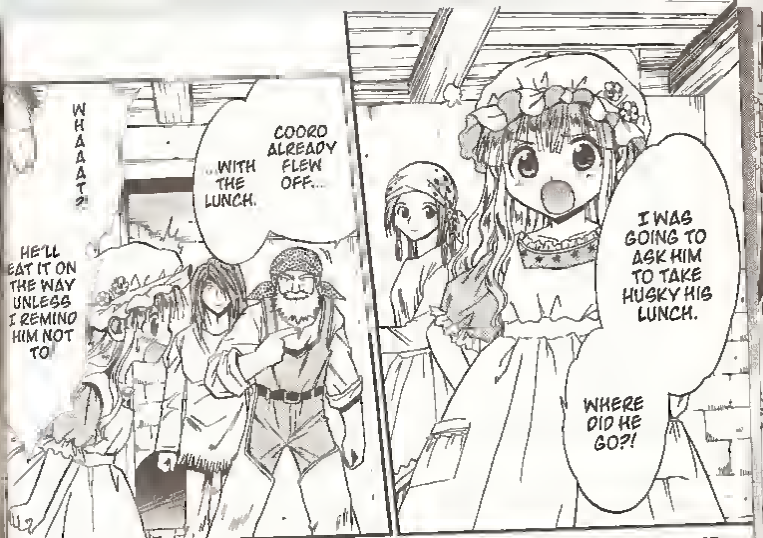

I THINK HE WAS HAPPY
AFTER PUTTING ALL THE ACCOUNTS TOGETHER, AND FILLING IN THE REST WITH MY IMAGI-NATION..
BUT ...

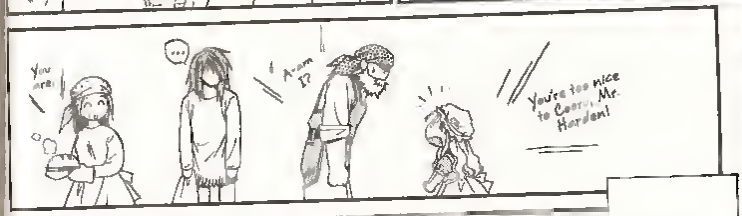

GOOROOOOO!
AND SO WERE THOSE CHILDREN

MR. FLY HAS GONE MISSING.


IN THE CASTLE AND RESEARCH FACILITY, PEOPLE AVOID TALKING ABOUT HIM.

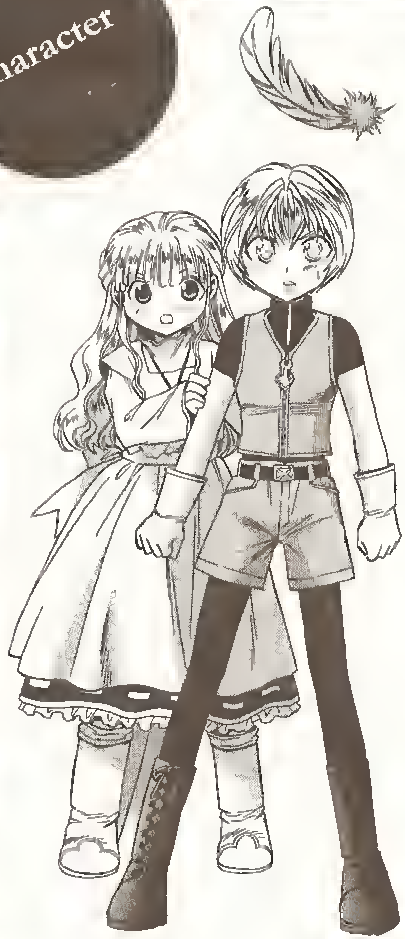
HUUUUUSKY!
DIDJA CATCH DINNER?
...MIGHT NOT BE SO FAR OFF.
Yay!
Apple
...


WHAAAAT?
HE'LL EAT IT ON THE WAY UNLESS I REMIND HIM NOT TO
COORO ALREADY FLEW OFF...
...WITH THE LUNCH.
I WAS GOING TO ASK HIM TO TAKE HUSKY HIS LUNCH.
WHERE DID HE GO?!


You are.
...
A-am I?
You're too nice to Coorg, Mr. Hordon!

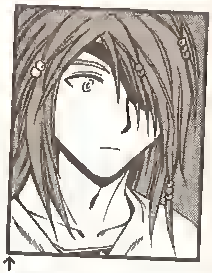
THE DAY THOSE CHILDREN'S ANIMA LEAVE THEM... (EXCEPT FOR THE KIM-UN-KUR)

Character



↑
Nana und Husky

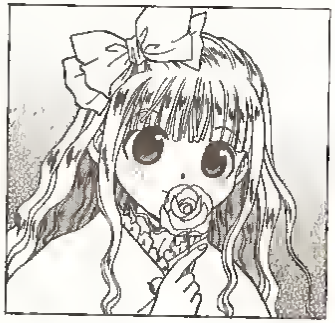
↑
Cooro

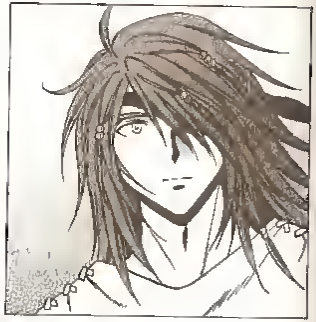


↑

P.S. +ANIMA

Afterword

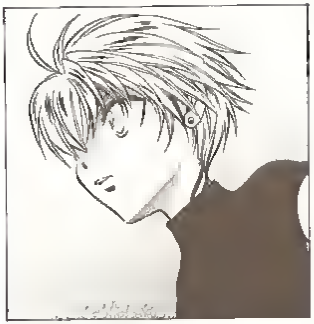




Like Paucha in "Itadaki Shunpei!!" Nana's clothes change all the time because I wanted to draw lots of girl's clothes. ♡ And because Nana is a bat +Anima, you'd think black gothic lolita clothes would suit her very well, but Nana wasn't that type of character. She's the full-speed-ahead-on-the-highway, girls'-highway type, so her colors are all beige-y pink. Knit hats have gotten popular in recent years, and when I'd see one with a flower motif, I'd think, "Oh! That's so Nana! ♡" Next time I draw a girl character, I want to let her wear lots of cute clothes, too.

For the next manga I draw, I want to be able to draw more humans. I want to make a series that's warm and calming. Well then, let's meet again sometime!

Natsumi Mukai



For the time being, Cooro and the others have finished their journey. Cooro has become "human" at last, and now, his new journey as a human will begin. After all, I can't imagine that he'll stay at Harden-san's place forever.

And so, umm, to all of you who stayed with the series all five years, thank you very much! (Though in Cooro's world, not even a year has passed.)

I've always liked drawing children, but I hadn't drawn them as main characters since Wander Wandering! so it was really fun. Cooro and the others are older than the kids in Wander, so they think and act more like adults, but they're not quite adults, they're at that delicate age. Well, of the four of them, that only goes for Husky and Nana. ♪

Husky and Nana are characters that are relatively easy to figure out--a boy with the face of a pretty girl, and a meddling chatterbox girl. I think they're the kind of children you often see in manga. They say whatever's on their mind, and it shows on their faces. Those two pull the story along. But the main character is really Cooro.

Cooro is very hard to figure out, and yet for some reason, he's the leader of the four. If Cooro hadn't been around, they all might not have become such good friends. Despite being hard to figure out, strangely, Cooro does things for me, and it was really fun drawing him. I like the stories in the series like "Wings of the Wind" and "The Boy Who Loved a Mermaid," where Cooro deals with boys of different ages. I especially liked "Wings of the Wind," because Cooro's personality comes out and he grows just a little bit. Plus there was goat cheese ♪ It really is fun drawing food. I'm not a gourmet or someone who likes cookin' or anything though. ♪ (A long time ago, my heart was stolen by the pink candy in "Elmer and the Dragon." ♡)

Special Thanks

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